

“Farewell to Franklin” Homecoming theme; Journalism’s new home nears completion

By **Kerry Arndt**
Journalism senior

The University of Arizona journalism department’s wish to bid “farewell to Franklin” may not have come as soon as planned, but this year’s Homecoming celebration, Nov. 7 and 8, will be the last for the department in that building as completion of a new space draws near.

The Louise F. Marshall Building, the department’s new quarters, will be completed by December 2003, according to Tom Warne, developer and consultant for the Marshall Foundation, the non-profit organization sponsoring the \$17-million building. He said this will be in time for the spring semester.

Warne said construction for the building at 835 N. Park Ave., between University and Second Street, has been delayed due to the state’s fiscal crisis.

“The construction time actually

shortened, but the financial end was delayed almost a year,” Warne said.

While the journalism department waits to move, its 2003 homecoming celebration will be focused on the last stand at the 44-year-old building, a “Farewell to Franklin” tribute that department head Jacqueline E. Sharkey describes as “the end of an era and the beginning of a new one.”

A reception will be held for alumni on Saturday, Nov. 8, in Franklin’s Great Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Several items embossed with the slogan will be available for sale. T-shirts are \$10 and mugs and insulated cups are from between \$8 and \$9.

During Homecoming, the journalism department will also have a tent on the Mall to meet and mingle with alumni on Saturday.

Judith A. Bernas, a 1988 graduate who now works for the UA

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Cursor photo

Only the top four stories of the Frances F. Marshall Building are visible in this photo, shot from the south, atop the Tyndall Avenue parking garage. In the foreground are University Avenue shops. The Main Gate is to the right, not shown

Facing jail for protecting her sources, Leggett ‘knew what she had to do’



Cursor photo by K. J. Wolverton

Vanessa Leggett accepts the John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Award from Jacqueline E. Sharkey, journalism department head, at ceremonies in October.

By **Rebekah Kleinman**
Journalism senior

Vanessa Leggett spent 168 days in jail for keeping her promise.

Leggett, a Texas journalist and freelance writer, refused to reveal to a grand jury confidential sources she had interviewed while writing a book about a high-profile Texas murder.

Her efforts to maintain freedom of the press earned her the 47th John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Award for Freedom of the Press and the People’s Right to Know.

The award comes from the

University of Arizona journalism department and the Arizona Newspapers Foundation and was presented by Jacqueline E. Sharkey, the journalism department head, at the Arizona Newspapers Association annual awards banquet.

“Her story talks to the need and the right of journalists to protect sources,” Sharkey said.

Leggett was the first journalist since 1991 to be jailed for not revealing sources, and spent more time in jail than anyone else.

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Journalism enrollment, majors and minors, breaking records

By **Kerry Arndt**
Journalism senior

The University of Arizona’s journalism department’s enrollment increased again for the eighth year in a row, making it the fastest growing undergraduate major in the Social and Behavioral Sciences college and the fifth largest major among incoming freshmen.

The number of journalism majors rose 18 percent over a two-year period, from 368 to 449.

Perhaps even more significant is the rapid increase of journalism minors. In 2001, there were 61 minors. As of this fall, there were 114, a 45 percent jump.

“It’s not just a local trend: UA undergraduate academic advisor Paul Johnson said the major is growing nationwide.

Many college journalism departments around the country are reporting increasing numbers, despite a lagging economy and subsequent budget cuts in higher education.

In fact, said Johnson, the trend “probably has a lot to do with the economy.”

Jobs may be a little harder to come by upon graduation, he said, noting, “Journalism is a specific study that points to a specific career.”

Junior Michelle Ochoa agreed.

“Journalism is more objective than an English degree, and it gives you a better chance of a career when you graduate,” Ochoa said.

Journalism department head Jacqueline E. Sharkey sees journalism carrying more weight in today’s society.

“Journalism education is seen as relevant, especially since 9/11, when people became more aware of how dependent they were on media,” she said.

Sharkey explained that with the abundance of information in today’s society, media has been “a part of the fabric of people’s lives as it hasn’t been in earlier generations.”

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Arizona reporter guilty in disputed intrusion case

Editor's note: Bryon Wells, a reporter for the East Valley Tribune in Mesa, Ariz., and a UA journalism graduate, finds himself at the center of a controversial intrusion case. Here is his account.

**By Bryon Wells
Special to the Cursor**

A 3-foot high brick and mortar wall with an unlocked iron gate is not a very daunting barrier. But slap a "No Trespassing" sign on it, and it becomes as impassable as, say, a moat swimming with crocodiles. Right?

So said the Chandler, Ariz., Municipal Court judge who ruled in May that I was guilty of a class one misdemeanor trespassing charge.

What I had done was to walk through the gate, up a sidewalk, ring a doorbell and ask to speak with a former police officer at his home. I wanted his comment for a story.

This was a technical violation of the law, according to Municipal Court Judge R. I. Karp. He said a fenced residential yard with a "No Trespassing" sign should have put me on notice that I was not welcome.

My attorney has appealed to the Maricopa County Superior Court. As I wait, my sentence of a \$300 fine and one year of unsupervised probation is deferred.

Here's how this mess started:

On Oct. 12, 2002, Chandler police officer Dan Lovelace was about to finish his shift when he heard a call to investigate a woman who was apparently trying to pass a fake prescription at a pharmacy. He took the call.

When he arrived, Lovelace talked briefly with Dawn Rae Nelson in the parking lot. While he was trying to read the rear license plate on Nelson's car, she began to drive away. Lovelace fired his weapon, striking Nelson in the chest and killing her.

I responded to the initial shooting call and covered the story thereafter with other reporters.

On Nov. 6, an editor told me to go Lovelace's home for comment because we had learned Lovelace was about to be indicted on charges of second-degree murder.

At his home, I opened the gate, passed the "No Trespassing" sign and rang the doorbell. A woman I later learned was Lovelace's wife, Trish Debbs, came around the outside of the home and asked who I was.

I told her, and said I was hoping to speak with Lovelace.

"Can't you read?" she asked, referring to the sign.

I explained that we wanted to give Lovelace a chance to make a statement. She said there would be no comment, so I left.

The whole encounter lasted about 15 seconds, as Debbs testified in court.

I thought no more about it until about six weeks later, when a Chandler police officer contacted me and said I was being investigated for criminal trespass.

One of the first things my attorney, Daniel C. Barr of Brown & Bain, P.A., in Phoenix, asked was why it took so long for the police to

seek charges against me. I covered Chandler, after all, and had been in the police station about four days a week.

Our editorial pages asked why the law was applied to a newspaper reporter gathering information, and not a door-to-door salesman. What about fundraising Girl Scouts or religious solicitors?

There was no Arizona case law that provided clear direction for either the prosecutor or my attorney. What it mostly boiled down to was the sign.

In court, Barr argued that states that have addressed the question have agreed with an Oregon court that held that posting a "No Trespassing" sign was not sufficient to exclude visitors from lawfully making contact with the occupants of the house.

Barr also noted that I had no criminal intent — I was not there to vandalize the home, harass its occupants or attempt to illegally home-stead on their property.

This is how I viewed the matter from the first time I laid eyes on the sign. That's why it didn't stop me.

Barr further argued that my conduct was well within the exemption defined in the criminal code, which states that a person "enters and remains unlawfully" on a property when their "intent for so entering or remaining is not licensed, authorized or otherwise privileged."

"Wells went to Officer Lovelace's front door for the legitimate purpose of 'gathering the news' on an issue of public concern, an activity protected by the First Amendment," Barr wrote.

Karp disagreed, concluding that the fence and sign manifested clear intent to bar nosy reporters from the property.

He also held that the couple's right to personal privacy outweighed my need as a newspaper reporter to obtain information.

Would I do the same thing again?

Why was the law applied to a reporter and not to a door-to-door salesman?

Library science scholar, editor, joins department

**By Andrew Poplin
Journalism senior**

The short-staffed UA journalism department found its missing puzzle piece in its new program coordinator, Mary Guerrieri.

"It has been a great help having Mary join the office because it was just Kathy [D'Assis] and me since February," said Cris Ballard, department business manager. "Both of us pretty much had to be the jack of all trades."

Jacqueline E. Sharkey, journalism department head, reorganized the department, Guerrieri said, and moving D'Assis to a web-design position opened a spot for her.

"When Mary arrived we actually were able to split up job duties and have definitive jobs," Ballard said.

Daily maintenance, helping the undergraduate advisor in scheduling courses, ordering textbooks and equipping professors with what they need are a few of Guerrieri's duties. She also helps Sharkey with special projects such as organizing conferences and dinners.

Guerrieri likes working with students.

"They keep me young and interested in what's going on, and you have to be on the ball and up-to-date," she said, revealing a 1,000-watt smile.

Guerrieri moved to Tucson from Fenton, Mich. with her parents in 1984. She received her master of library science degree in 1992 and her bachelor's degrees in French and political science from the UA in 1988.

She had hoped to have a

career in foreign services, but then the UA Press offered her an assistant editorial position for the Space Science Series.

She later assumed an editor's position and remained there for about five years until the project funding ended.

Until 1997 she worked as librarian for the space imagery center in Tucson, one of 18

NASA regional planetary image facilities. Guerrieri also was a librarian for the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, but by 2003, she was ready for a change.

"I wanted to get back to campus," Guerrieri said. "I had worked with astronomers since I graduated from the UA, and my background was really in the humanities."

Guerrieri has done many different things herself in her spare time. She has taken Blackjack dealing courses and is enrolled in leisure reading classes, a huge interest of hers. A William Faulkner fan, Guerrieri has read all his novels and still rereads one of them each year. She enjoys other authors as well, such as Jane Smiley.

Guerrieri hikes and gardens. She also enjoys cooking vegetarian meals. Playing with her dog and her three cats is also a diversion, she said.



Cursor photo
Guerrieri in her lair.

Economy helps fuel department growth

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"Many students want to pursue a job with a sense of purpose, and they are aware that the journalism major will help them get a job," Sharkey said, adding that skills like research and logical writing are "easily transferred and desired" in a variety of careers.

But with the influx of students comes the challenge of accommodating them.

"There's just no availability in the classes," Ochoa said. She said there was a waiting list for every journalism class she's taken.

The department has implemented minimum prerequisites and pre-registration in efforts to curb class size.

In addition, the department is looking at limiting the number of journalism minors because it has grown so rapidly, Sharkey said.

The department was also recently given the go-ahead to hire a full-time faculty member to begin next fall to teach core program courses, a constraint in the past because of financial reasons.

The department currently has four fulltime faculty members and 15 adjunct faculty members.

"Budget cuts have been a factor. It's limited the number of part-time faculty we have and limited the number of courses we can offer to some extent," Sharkey said.

Move to Marshall Building stirs excitement



Cursor photo
Students gather at the large tables on the north side of the Great Hall to read or talk before their journalism classes.

"We could hear the UPI wire machines out in the Great Hall and we knew something was happening," Bernas recalled.

"I'm sure (the new building) will help with technological needs, but it's always a little melancholy to see a lot of memories go," said Bernas, who plans to attend some of the department's Homecoming festivities.

Though some feelings of sentiment do linger, the move is a welcome one.

Sharkey acknowledges that many alumni are nostalgic about their former building, but she said she cannot think of one aspect that she will miss about Franklin, which was built in 1959.

"I'm tired of dealing with bio-hazards, like evacuating faculty offices because of massive mold infestations and students slipping in leaking sewage," Sharkey said.

She believes the faculty members have "had their fill of Franklin and are very happy to move."

Aside from biohazards, the Franklin Building has been "a very difficult space in which to create a good learning environment," Sharkey said.

Design flaws such as the support columns that divide the space in the Harelson Reporting Lab have often been cited as hindrances to teaching and learning.

But Franklin's shortcomings may have served a greater purpose, as Sharkey has found.

"(The Franklin Building) has lacked pleasantness and created a certain esprit among the students," Sharkey said. "It has been a form of adversity that brought the students together."

The building's Great Hall has also been credited with bringing students together.

"I'll miss it," said senior Drew Eicher. "Everybody before class meets out here (in the Great Hall) and talks. I hope they have something like it at the new place."

Senior Dan Mitchell also appreciates the Great Hall for its "classic open, newsroom look," but says that can't outweigh one key thing.

"Franklin is still a major bio-hazard," Mitchell said.

The Franklin Building will be torn down, according to Johan Lahtinen, assistant director for space management. While Lahtinen said that no one knows yet exactly

what would be going in the vacant lot at 1101 E. 5th St., Warne said the location is in the "research quadrant" of campus.

According to Lahtinen, the journalism department will have the greater part of the third floor of the five-story Marshall building, about 11,200 square feet. Other departments moving into the top four floors include Media Arts, the UA Centers for Latin American Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Near Eastern Studies, Judaic Studies, the Racetrack Industry program and SAHRA, and a hydrology department research group.

The street-level floor will be leased to retailers, including the Arizona Book Store.

The new building is named for the University of Arizona's first female professor, Louise Foucar Marshall. She launched the Marshall Foundation in 1930.

UA's Homecoming 2003 is called, "Paint the Town Red and Blue." The Homecoming Parade on the mall will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, with the Wildcats versus the Washington Huskies kicking off at 4 p.m.

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as an associate vice president in the Office of Federal Relations, said she loved the Franklin Building because of all the great memories of favorite professors, like Donald W. Carson and James W. Johnson, both now retired.

"I'll always remember seeing faces down there, people who were meeting with us and taking care of us," Bernas said.

She remembers being in a classroom when the Challenger space shuttle exploded in 1986.

Wildcat reunion, Hall of Fame banquet

Eight new members of the Wildcat Hall of Fame will be inducted at a banquet and reunion during homecoming weekend.

The Hall of Fame honor recognizes the achievements of those who got their start on the Wildcat and have since gone on to prominence in journalism and other fields, and those who have supported and helped the Wildcat.

The new Hall of Fame members to be honored on Nov. 7 are:

- + Elinor J. Brecher, a Pulitzer Prize-winner from the Miami Herald and author of the book "Schindler's Legacy."
- Bobbie Jo Buel, managing editor of the Arizona Daily Star.
- + Michael Chihak, editor and publisher of the Tucson Citizen.
- + David Fitzsimmons, Arizona Daily Star editorial cartoonist.
- + James W. Johnson, author and former professor of journalism.
- + Sherman Miller, head of the UA journalism department in the 1960s and adviser to the Wildcat, who will be recognized posthumously.
- + George Morley, advertising manager of the Wildcat in the 1980s and mentor to many students on the ad side, who also will be recognized posthumously.
- + Lynne Olson, veteran Associated Press correspondent and coauthor of "Freedom's Daughters."

Eighteen Hall of Fame nominations were made this year by Wildcat alumni, according to Mark Woodhams, director of student media. A committee of Tucson-based alumni reviewed the nominations and recommended selections.

The founding editor of CBS Marketwatch, Thom Calandra, who also is a UA alum, will give the keynote address at the banquet on Friday, Nov. 7.

Invitations to the event were mailed, but if you did not receive an invitation and want to attend, call student media at 520-626-6699 to make a reservation. There will be a reception at 6 p.m. at the Tucson Doubletree; the banquet begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

Check out www.wildcat.arizona.edu/alumni for more information.

In Memoriam:

Eugene G. Varn, 58, a 1967 UA journalism graduate, died in Bisbee, Ariz., on July 29 after a two-year battle with cancer.

Varn worked for the Tucson Daily American as a reporter and assistant news editor from 1966 to 1967. He was a staff writer at the University of Arizona News Bureau from 1968-1970, and moved to the Tucson Citizen as a reporter. He became night city editor in 1973 and later was day city editor. He left the Citizen in 1977. Varn joined the Arizona Republic in 1979 and headed its Tucson-based Southern Arizona Bureau until his retirement from journalism in 1991.

After retiring, he moved to Bisbee and later taught English and journalism at Cochise Community College.

Alumni Notes

2003

◆ Leaving her position as cops reporter, **Susan Carroll** has moved to reporting on border issues from the Arizona Republic's Nogales bureau.

† **Judy Chewning** is an admissions counselor for the University of Arizona's Phoenix Office of Admissions and New Student Enrollment.

◆ **Cyndy Cole** completed a Dow Jones Fellowship on the San Francisco Chronicle and is staying on at the paper to work on the copy desk.

◆ **Abby Ham** has moved to Parkersburg, W. Va., where she is co-anchor and producer for NBC affiliate WTAP-TV's new 5 p.m. newscast.

◆ **Lauren McCabe** joined CNBC in Washington, D.C. as a producer, researcher and satellite coordinator.

◆ **Rick Stilgenbauer** is working in the Washington, D.C. of Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., serving as the education legislative liaison.

◆ **Vanessa Vasquez** is holding down several part-time jobs while waiting to take the GRE and applying for admission in the graduate program in counseling program at Northern Arizona University-Yuma.

◆ **Hillary Wade** has joined E! Entertainment

Network as associate producer of True Hollywood Stories.

2002

◆ **Aaron Farnsworth** is one of two science writers for the Tucson-based Muscular Dystrophy Association, covering MDA-fund research and news.

◆ **Ryan Finley** is working as a sports reporter at The Californian of Temecula, Calif., 40 miles north of San Diego.

◆ **Gaston Mascarenas** is working at a Spanish news-talk radio station in Tucson, Radio Unica (1210 AM), and hosts two programs, including the station's main local talk show.

◆ **Na'ama Tubman** lives in Santa Fe, N.M., where she does public relations for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Her duties include Web design, media contacts, graphic design, editing and writing.

2001

◆ **Christian Richardson** has been the cops and courts reporter for the Aberdeen (S.D.) American News about one year

◆ **Melissa Reeves** has left her assignment as weekend assignments editor to take over as special projects producer at KVOA-TV in Tucson. She is working on investigative stories, sweeps

pieces and other projects.

1998

◆ **Kerri Bloom Cohen** joined the Baltimore City Public Defender's Office. She married fellow attorney Rob Cohen in August.

1996

◆ **Trigie Ealey** is a copy editor and page designer for the Stars and Stripes newspaper in Washington, D.C.

1995

◆ **Kristen Pownall de Groot** is working as an editor on the Associated Press national desk in New York City.

1993

◆ **Paul Allvin** has been named director of communications for Arizona's Democratic Governor, Janet Napolitano. He had been team.

1992

◆ **Eun-Kyung Kim** has left the Associated Press Washington Bureau for a reporting job at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

1988

◆ **Gene Garaygordobil** is in Visalia, Calif., as South Valley Bureau Chief for the Fresno Bee.

1987

◆ After a four-year stint at ABC-NEWS.com, **Josh Moss** joined FoxNews.com as its managing editor, the number

two job at the site.

1985

◆ Arizona State Sen. **Toni Hellon**, R-Tucson, will receive the Arizona Alumni Association Public Service Award for her many years of dedication to the public. The Tucson UA Alumni Club nominated her for the honor, which will be presented during the Homecoming Alumni Awards and Recognition Reception on Nov. 7, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the grand ballroom of University Student Union.

1984

◆ **Mark Emmons** is a sports writer for the San Jose Mercury News.

1982

◆ **Hans G. Laetz**, Arizona Daily Wildcat editor 1979-80, was promoted last spring to news operations manager at Tribune Broadcasting's KTLA in Los Angeles. He moved over from the assignment desk, where he had worked for 20 years at KOLD, Tucson, CBS News and KCBS in Los Angeles. Laetz lives in Zuma Beach with his wife **Diana** (class of '79) and three daughters.

1978

◆ Continuing a 20-year career with Freedom Communications Inc., **M. Olaf Frandsen** recently was promoted to publisher of the McAllen (Texas) Monitor and to regional vice president of

Freedom's community newspaper Southwest Region. He publishes the 55,000-circulation Monitor and oversees Freedom's daily papers in Harlingen, Brownsville and Odessa, Texas; Clovis and Portales, N.M., and Sedalia, Mo. Frandsen became a publisher in 1993 after 15 years as an editor at such papers as the Orange County Register and the Odessa American in Texas (winner of a Pulitzer Prize in 1987 for photo coverage of the rescue of Baby Jessica McClure).

1977

◆ **Walt Nett** is an adjunct instructor of journalism at the University of Arizona. He also is working as a freelance writer and web consultant, and is trying to find a niche in the Tucson acoustic music scene. In October, 2002, Nett was married in Van Nuys, Calif., to Wendy Rouze, a registered nurse. Within a week the couple moved to Tucson, where he operated The Bus Stop, a restaurant in downtown Tucson, until July, 2003.

1970

◆ **Wendy Leece** is employed as a senior administrative assistant for a major Orange County, Calif., developer in the retail projects and construction department. She has five children, but still finds time to serve on the Costa Mesa (Calif.) Parks and Recreation Commission and on the board of directors of the Orange County Youth Commission.

1967

◆ **Stan Gordon** is a writer living in Tucson. He reports that his first novel, "Moon and the Water," will be published in November.

Faculty update

James W. Johnson, who retired in May after 24 years teaching in the journalism department, is among those being inducted to the Wildcat Hall of Fame on Homecoming weekend. (See full story on page x.)

Professor James C. Mitchell expects to see publication of his second mystery novel, tentatively titled "The Riot Victims," in summer 2004.

"It starts with a murder during a riot on Fourth Avenue after a UA basketball game for the NCAA championship," Mitchell says.

The lead character, a former border patrolman named Brinker, was introduced in Mitchell's "Lovers Crossing," which was published by St. Martin's Minotaur in July.

Booklist, the American Library Association review journal, called Brinker "instantly likable" and "full of surprises," and said "Lovers Crossing" was "as satisfying as the debuts of such classic series heroes as Parker's Spenser and Grafton's Kinsey Millhone."

Mitchell spent much of the summer appearing at bookstores and conferences in Arizona, California, Texas and Colorado.

In his capacity as professor and attorney, Mitchell will be speaking at a First Amendment symposium at the University of Idaho College of Law in the spring, in connection with a law review article on libel law being published at that time.

Jim Patten, who retired in 2002 as journalism department head, is spending the fall 2003 term as a visiting journalism professor at the University of Nebraska, where he is watching his beloved Huskers rise again.

George Ridge, who taught in the journalism department for 27 years and served two stints as department head, was named to the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association Hall of Fame for his work promoting excellence in high school journalism.

The association noted that Ridge, an attorney, was available to any high school journalism adviser in conflict with the administration.

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