

Cursor photo by Will Seberger

Graduating senior Ty E. Young pauses to celebrate after accepting the Kathryn Anne Govenal Award for Perseverance.

## Students, faculty, friends gather, honor top achievers, adjunct prof

The journalism department presented 17 awards to 40 students at its 38th annual "Just Desserts" honors and awards celebration on May 5.

The department also awarded 14 types of scholarships worth \$31,000 to 57 students during the event. (See story on page 3.)

Jacqueline Sharkey, the journalism department head, noted that a total of 114 students had graduated with journalism majors since last summer, "the largest group in recent memory."

There are currently more than 600 journalism majors and minors, she said.

The growth is expected to continue into a new era as the department expands its teaching staff and moves into new, more comfortable, spacious and technologically utilitarian quarters in the Louise Foucar Marshall Building, Sharkey said.

Jeannine E. Relly received the Hugh and Jan Harelson Excellence in Teaching Award, which was given for the first time to an adjunct faculty member nominated by students.

Relly, a former reporter for the Associated Press and the Arizona Daily Star who is working on a doctorate, will join the department as a full-time faculty member in the fall term.

Students who were recognized at the awards cer-

emony included three who attained the highest level of academic and professional achievement:

Robert A. Purvis won the Sherman R. Miller Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Newsperson of the Year.

Purvis, a former reporter for the Arizona Daily Wildcat, also interned at the Arizona Daily Star. As the Don Bolles Fellow at the state legislature during the spring semester, his work was superb, Professor Susan Knight said. He will intern this summer at the Milwaukee Journal.

The Philip Mangelsdorf Award for Outstanding Senior was given to Jennifer E. Karlman, who maintained a 30-hour workweek as assignments editor at the Tucson CBS station, KOLD-TV, worked part-time at a restaurant, and kept up a stellar grade point average, according to Knight.

Karlman also was the inspiration and the driving force behind the revival of the UA chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, of which she was president.

The B.P. Campbell Award for Outstanding Junior went to Andrea C. Kelly, for her performance during the spring semester as editor-in-chief of the

See "Just Desserts," page 2

## Let there be light: The move to Marshall begins

By Shawn Patrick Green  
Journalism junior

The journalism department's move to the new Louise Foucar Marshall Building has been rife with setbacks and complications, but action was beginning at last as the Cursor went to press.

Students and faculty in the journalism department had hoped to make the move earlier in the spring semester from the Franklin building to the third floor of the new Marshall building, located on the corner of Park Avenue and Second Street.

The move was delayed primarily because of technology and security concerns, according to Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head.

Paul Johnson, senior academic advisor for the department, said the other academic departments that occupied Franklin moved into Marshall during the winter, but none of them had technology needs as complex as those of the journalism department.

Journalism "has 100 computers and six labs that we have to hook up," Johnson said. "There

were not enough data ports in the classrooms to do this adequately."

Security was another issue, according to Sharkey. She said that certain doors were constructed so that the locks could easily be jimmed.

"The building simply was not secure enough to move in hundreds of thousands of dollars of equipment and to ensure students' safety," Sharkey said.

Despite the delays, Sharkey and Johnson were excited about the move.

Johnson noted that the new building not only gives the journalism department 2,000 more square feet of space than it now has, but that the space is "more usable."

Johnson posed as an example the Great Hall in Franklin, which is "a wonderful hangout for students, but it's useless for a classroom."

In Marshall, students will gather in a large reading room with eight large south- and east-facing windows, Sharkey noted.



Cursor photo

The east facade of Marshall, overlooking Park Avenue, and a look into the reading room from the adjacent hallway.



Cursor photo

Windows! A view of the conference room in the northeast corner of the journalism department's new quarters.

## University authorizes hires; new professors arriving for fall

By Shawn Patrick Green  
Journalism junior

Two new faculty members have been hired for the fall semester and the journalism department will add five additional professors over the next three years, Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head, announced.

The new faculty are: Iris Chyi, an assistant professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Jeannine Relly, a 1991 UA journalism graduate who is at work on her doctorate at the School of Public Affairs at Arizona State University.

The faculty additions will eventually lead to reinstatement of both the journalism minor, which was suspended in the fall because of high enrollments, and the journalism graduate-degree program, according to Paul Johnson, the department's senior academic advisor. The master's program was suspended five years ago, he said.

Chyi, who received her master's in media studies from Stanford University and her doctorate in journalism from the University of Texas in 1999, "is going to help develop the interdisciplinary minor in informational technology and society that will be organized by the journalism and communication

departments and the School of Information Technology and Library Science," Sharkey said.

Though Chyi is a joint hire with communications, she will be based in the journalism department and spend 51 percent of her time there, Sharkey said.

Chyi's research involves usage and perception of online and print editions of U.S. and Hong Kong newspapers, Sharkey said.

Relly, who will teach at the UA while completing her doctorate, was hired as an assistant professor of practice, Sharkey said. That classification means such professors have "little or no research requirement, so that they can teach additional classes and focus on curriculum development and service."

"I am greatly looking forward to teaching in the fall," Relly said. "These are challenging times in the field, with critical issues such as press freedom, access to information and media consolidation influencing the very nature of journalism itself. The academic environment will be a great place to address these matters, which will impact all of us in the coming years."

# “Elephants of Style” worthy addition to writer’s shelf

By **Walt Nett**  
Adjunct faculty

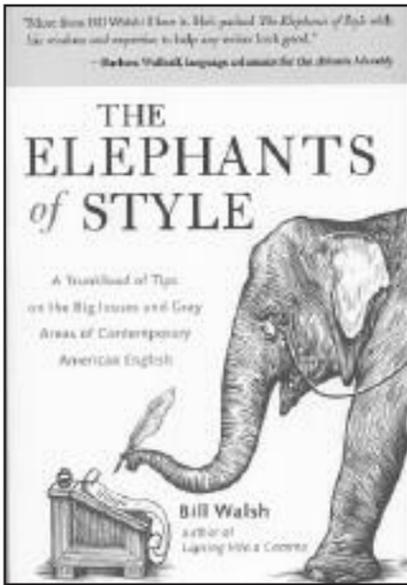
After reading Bill Walsh’s new look at language, “The Elephants of Style” (McGraw-Hill, March 2004), you might feel tempted to relegate that weathered copy of Strunk and White’s “The Elements of Style” to a used-book store, or a museum devoted to those who taught elementary school grammar.

Don’t do it. They belong together on the bookshelf of anyone who cares about the craft of writing and treating language with respect.

Walsh takes the reader back to the basics — the stuff about capitalization, punctuation, numeration, abbreviation, apostrophication and all the other stuff we would have learned if we’d paid attention during Mrs. Torquemada’s sixth-grade grammar class.

But unlike “The Elements of Style,” Walsh draws the reader in with advice rather than hard-and-fast rules, and frequent suggestions that the best answer may be the one that sounds best to your ears.

Walsh’s approach may explain why we didn’t pay attention in Mrs. Torquemada’s class. “The Elephants of



Style” is an entertaining and frequently funny read, which certainly can’t be said of many grammar classes or usage manuals, for that matter.

Walsh, copy chief for the national desk at the Washington Post and a 1984 alumnus of the UA journalism department, takes an eye-level approach in his comments, explaining without talking down to the reader.

At times he preaches, but he makes many of his points with a mix of sardonic wit, a sprinkle or two of sarcasm, and the occasional leap to the absurd. For example, his section on done-to-death leads and openings includes a lengthy passage that proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that resorting to using the “Rodney Dangerfield of ...” (as in “Italy is the Rodney Dangerfield of Europe,” and so on, and on) is a practice that should be long past retirement.

The clarity with which Walsh explains rules of language and usage makes this book an ideal buy for a reporter who’s thinking about making the jump to desk work. Sometimes writers may apply the rules well, but if you ask them to explain a rule it’s like asking someone to describe a goatee without stroking his or her chin.

Walsh’s best chapter, on plagiarism, is one that should be studied and discussed in newsrooms everywhere. The message isn’t so much about legalisms and examples, but instead is a question that should challenge every journalist: “Are you a writer or a typist?”

Each chapter opens with a quote that underscores the topic. His chapter on spelling, for example, opens with a quote from the UPI stylebook: “A burro is an ass. A burrow is a hole in the ground. As a journalist you are expected to know the difference.”

Walsh uses a sardonic wit and has a good sense of when an absurd demonstration makes his point well.

For example, he pokes a hole in misuse of the word “compromise,” noting that most reporters wrote that fig-

ure skater Tonya Harding and the United States Olympic Committee had reached a compromise before the 1984 Winter Olympics. As the story went, the USOC barred Harding from skating, Harding sued, the USOC backed down and Harding dropped the lawsuit.

If that’s a compromise, Walsh writes, “We need to rethink our coverage of other events: ‘An area man agreed to give his wallet to another man yesterday in a compromise in which the second man agreed to not shoot him.’”

His discussion of capitalizing business names is something that every business journalist in the country should read and think about.

Walsh argues persuasively that using a business’s logo spelling — all lower case, for example, or all upper case, or with some gimmick such as using an asterisk to replace an apostrophe — makes a news story read as if it were the work of some corporate PR type. As he puts it: “You’re a writer, not a logo replicator.”

Admittedly, I suffered a few flashbacks to journalism classes and face-to-face grading sessions that included professorial dicta, rendered in a certain Moses with the Tablets style, such as, “use ‘more than’ for quantities and ‘above or over’ for physical location.”

This made a chapter titled “Lies your English teacher told you” a real pleasure to read (vindication after all these years). But the pleasure was freighted with just a little chagrin as I remembered giving the same rules to reporters and journalism students in the same “carved in granite” intonation in which they were delivered unto me.

But it is a great chapter, and it presses a point that makes this book work:

Language evolves, and while we shouldn’t run out and adopt every weird little nuance that comes down the pike, we should see how usage changes and then go with the flow as needed.

Continued from page one...

## Just Desserts fetes graduates, recognizes achievements

(Cont’d) Tombstone Epitaph.

Kelly will intern this summer at the National Journal, a political news magazine in Washington, D.C. She wants to be a political reporter.

Others recognized during the ceremonies included:

Ty E. Young received the Kathryn Anne Gornal Award for Perseverance. Paul Johnson, the journalism department senior academic advisor, noted that Young had been working toward his bachelor’s degree since 1995 while juggling obligations that included nearly full-time work, a debilitating illness, a young child, and a spouse who was finishing her nursing degree.

Jeffrey L. Sklar won both the Alex Parker Award for Reporting and the Arizona Daily Wildcat’s Donald Still Award. Sklar was the first student in 25 years to serve two terms as editor-in-chief of the Wildcat, where he also reported and held other editorial positions.

His professors and colleagues praised Sklar as an “enterprising and ambitious” journalist.

Dana R. “Randy” Metcalf received the Jack W. Schaeffer Award for Outstanding News Photography. Metcalf worked on both the Epitaph and the Wildcat and last year his Epitaph entries won top photojournalism honors in the Arizona Newspapers Association competition, in the category of newspapers with circulations under 3,500.

David W. Harden won the J.Y. Bryan Prize for Interpretive



Cursor photo by Will Seberger  
Professor Susan Knight gets a hug as she hands the Sherman R. Miller Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Newsperson of the Year to Robert A. Purvis.

Photography. Harden served as managing editor, and then editor-in-chief of the Epitaph, as well as Daily Wildcat photo editor.

Seven students received a William Hattich Award for Journalism Professionalism: Orli Ben-Dor, Jennifer L. Duffy, Jennifer E. Hunsperger, Daniel D. McGuire, Irene C. McKisson, Michelle D. Shelton and Julian J. Temblador.

The Abe Chanin Award for Excellence in Sports Reporting went to Amanda J. Branum, a junior and an Arizona Daily Wildcat sportswriter, and to Alison Ecklund, who was sports

editor of the Tombstone Epitaph. The Excellence in Broadcast Journalism Award went to Sarah E. Hoover, who excelled in broadcast news courses and was chosen twice to intern at KUAT.

The Excellence in On-Line Journalism Award went to two students: Morgan L. Rost, design editor of the Epitaph for two terms, who is putting back issues of the paper online; and Andrew M. Poplin, on-line editor of El Independiente, who put that paper onto the journalism department’s home page during the spring term.

## Journalism’s growth makes it 15th largest undergrad major

By **Shawn Patrick Green**  
Journalism junior

Enrollment in the journalism department continues to rise, despite the university’s recent budget cuts and a shortage of staff within the department.

Paul Johnson, the senior academic advisor for the department, said enrollment has increased from 225 in 1997 to 600 for the fall semester in 2004.

“That makes us the 15th-largest undergraduate major in the university, out of 125,” Johnson said. “We’re the fifth largest among incoming freshmen and the fastest growing undergraduate major in our college, Social and Behavioral Sciences.”

Johnson said that during the same period the department had lost full-time faculty positions “because of the general financial situation that the whole university is facing.”

This same faculty shortage caused the department to temporarily suspend admission into its minor program in the fall of 2003.

Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head, stressed that current journalism minors were not affected and that enrollment in the minor is expected to be reopened within a few years.

“Because of our small number of faculty, we do need to try to limit the number of students that we have so that we are focusing on declared majors,” Sharkey said.

Johnson said the faculty short-

age has been especially harmful to the journalism department because full-time employees are facing so many demands as it is.

“They’re on committees and they’re required to do some community service work,” Johnson said. “They just don’t have time to do a lot of the extras that we would like to do.”

“We’re the fifth largest among incoming freshmen.”

Sharkey also said the department has recently been authorized to hire full-time faculty.

“As of this spring we have five full-time faculty,” Sharkey said. “We will have six and a half starting this fall. I have a commitment from the university that I will be able to hire five additional people in the next three academic years.”

Sharkey said the combination of the additional faculty and more space after the move to the newly built Louise Foucar Marshall building should be enough to serve new students adequately.

“Our enrollment is expected to continue increasing as the information sector of the economy continues to play a major role in this country,” Sharkey said, “and the new space in the Marshall building will accommodate our enrollment growth.”

# Scholarship awards made to 57 students

Fifty-seven students were awarded 14 types of scholarships worth a total of \$31,000 during the end-of-year "Just Desserts" celebration on May 5.

Jacqueline Sharkey, journalism department head, noted that the scholarships were made possible by "the generosity of our many benefactors."

The scholarships help support those with the highest need and recognize those who have attained a superior level of scholastic achievement and classroom leadership. Those selected are:

- Edith S. Auslander Scholarship*, Monica J. Warren;
- Bernice Cosulich Scholarship*, Dana Crudo, Lindsey H. Frazier, Emily M. Kraft, Jennifer R. Phillips;
- D.C. "Darn Cat" Gordon Scholarship*, Shawn Patrick Green, Daniel D. McGuire, Marc J. Viscardi;
- Department Scholarship for Journalism Distinction*, John Z. deDios, Andrea C. Kelly, Thuba L. Nguyen, Mitra F. Taj;
- Douglas D. Martin Scholarship*, Dean B. Knuth, Kenneth J. Wolverton;
- Hubbard/Milburn Scholarship*, Brittany A. Brenner, Sarah S. Stark, Kenneth J. Wolverton;
- Eugene C. Pulliam Scholarship and Scripps Howard Scholarship*, both to Kenneth J. Wolverton;
- Arizona Daily Star Scholarship in memory of John F. Rawlinson*, Aaron D. Mackey, Justin S. McAllister, Tracey C. Rineberg;
- Arizona Daily Star Scholarship in memory of Jacquie Villa*, Alesha F. Black.
- Lois Whisler Scholarship*, Lindsey H. Frazier, Emily M. Kraft;
- Peggy Daum Judge Scholarship*, Julianne Hurst;
- Jon Ruby Scholarship*, Montgomery M. Matheson, Jacqui M. Pittel;
- James Edward Duncan Scholarship*, Alesha F. Black, Alexandria L. F. Blute, Blake A. Buchanan, Araceli Cons, Kristen R. Connors, Jessica L. Fish, Lindsey H. Frazier, Victor Garcia, Matthew C. Heitman, Andrea C. Kelly, Emily M. Kraft, Danielle K. Kruse, Jesse Lewis, Saul A. Loeb, Justin S. McAllister, Daniel D. McGuire, Audrey C. Miller, Jennifer R. Phillips, Jacqui M. Pittel, Andrea C. Rivera, Julia A. Scott, Nicholas K. Smith, Sarah S. Stark, Mitra F. Taj, Elizabeth H. Thompson, Marc J. Viscardi, Monica J. Warren, Allison M. Winters.



Cursor photo by Will Seberger

Erin M. O'Brien (above left) and Kaila M. Wyman (right) were named winners of the spring semester El Independiente Awards during the "Just Desserts" celebration on May 5. The winners for their work during fall 2003 also were announced. They were Michael W. Garrett and Susan Teran.

The Tombstone Epitaph John P. Clum Award winners for the fall semester were David W. Harden and Debra L. Hollander; in spring, the award went to Andrea C. Kelly.

# New international program

## Additional faculty bring expertise in regional journalism, language

By Will Seberger  
Journalism senior

The journalism department has begun an international journalism program in partnership with the university's Center for Latin American Studies and Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

In the initial three-year phase, international journalism courses will be offered to graduate students in Latin American Studies and Near Eastern Studies, and to advanced undergraduates in the journalism department.

The first two classes were offered this spring, and involved students traveling to Chile to produce a series of newspaper articles and photographs (see related story below).

The program will provide the foundation for interdisciplinary master's degrees in journalism and Latin American Studies and in journalism and Near Eastern Studies, said jour-

nalism department head Jacqueline Sharkey.

Students in the master's program will take half of their units in regional and language studies, and half in journalism.

The international journalism program has enabled the department to hire two half-time faculty members with extensive experience in Latin America and the Middle East, Sharkey said.

These faculty – Alan Weisman and Maggy Zanger – initially have three-year commitments,

she said.

Tucson-based author Alan Weisman launched the Latin American studies portion of the program in August 2003. Weisman has helped produce National Public Radio documentaries about Latin America and

has written about the region for the New York Times and Los Angeles Times magazines, and other publications.

In August 2004, Maggy Zanger will be joining the department. She is now in Baghdad working for the Institute for War & Peace Reporting, teaching Iraqi journalists to work for independent media.

Zanger has a master's degree from the journalism department. She is a former publications coordinator at Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, former assistant editor of Middle East Report, a public policy journal, and a faculty member at the American University in Cairo.

Money for the international program comes from several sources, according to Sharkey.

They include Title VI grants from the U.S. Department of Education for the centers for Latin American Studies and Middle Eastern Studies, funds from the UA Institute for the Study of Planet Earth, and other funds from the journalism department and Center for Latin American Studies.

*Students will take half their units in journalism, half in language and regional studies*

*The new faculty members initially have three-year commitments to the program*

## Weisman, students travel to Chile for examination of trade issues

By Will Seberger  
Journalism senior

Journalism Professor Alan Weisman and a delegation of UA students traveled to Chile in March to report stories important to Arizona and North American trade as part of a new international journalism program.

Weisman took nine students, seven of them graduate students associated with the Center for Latin American Studies and two of them undergraduates, on the two and one-half week trip.

"The purpose is to get the students to research a region, find stories that would interest their audience, go down there and write it," Weisman said.

Weisman began accepting applications in the fall term for the program, which requires good Spanish-language skills and is jointly operated by the journalism department and the Center for Latin American Studies. He said he received "far more" student applicants than he could take.

"I personally gave students an oral Spanish test to determine how much they knew. It would do the group no good to go down there and not be able to communicate effectively with the general population," Weisman said.

Weisman selected Chile as the focus of the class because the United States recently signed a trade agreement with the South American country.

"Chile has an enormous wealth of natural resources, and makes for a good trading partner with America. The question is what that means for Arizonans and other Americans," he said.

Weisman is the author of several books, including "La Frontera: The United States Border with Mexico," and has written about the region for the New York Times Magazine, the Los Angeles Times Magazine, Atlantic Monthly, Harper's and other publications. Among other projects, he was writer and associate producer of the NPR documentary series "Vanishing Homelands."

Weisman's students were given a reading list to supplement their knowledge of the region, as well as to spark story ideas.

The class met for four hours each week to discuss events in Chile and to develop a plan for their journey.

On March 10, Weisman, the students and Brad Poole, an assistant city desk editor for the Tucson Citizen, departed for Chile. The Citizen will publish the stories and photos produced by the students this summer.

Isabel Sepulveda, an international studies senior on the trip, worked with Poole looking into copper mining, Chile's largest industry. She said Poole gave her "a great crash course in journalism."

Anton Daughters, an anthropology doctoral candidate, said Weisman's class was "200 percent better than any other class I've taken."

Weisman said he also will take students to a Latin American country during the next academic year. Countries on his tentative list include Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Brazil or a nation in Central America.

"I want to go to a place where the UA isn't real strong, unlike Mexico," Weisman said.

*"This class is 200 percent better than any other class I've taken."*

*The question is what the trade agreement means for Arizonans and other Americans.*

# Long-awaited move finally under way



Cursor photos by Tim LeVan

The journalism department's business manager, Cris Ballard, is chairless at her cleared desk after completing her packing. Above, the moving crew begins hauling bookcases from Franklin. Below, all the chairs used by the department were collected in the old Great Hall, cleaned and then wrapped in plastic for the move to the new building.



# Settling in begins at the new building



Cursor photos by Tim LeVan

Moving vans back up to the rear, west-facing entrance of the Louise Foucar Marshall Building, above. Below left, a view from the interior of the building as workers begin unloading department materials. Below right, top, is a view over Park Avenue and the main campus from an east-facing window of the department, which is on the third floor. Below right, bottom, department administrative assistant April Thompson stands in a sea of packed boxes.



## University commits funds to academic advising

# What classes to take? Students have full-time advisor.

After years of student complaints about the quality of advising on campus, the university has taken a giant step toward major improvements. Journalism students are benefiting.

New funding in January 2003 allowed the journalism department to replace a series of part-time faculty advisors who also carried near-full-time teaching responsibilities with a full-time, non-teaching position. The post was one of a dozen added as the university invested more than \$2 million in advising resources.

"I was lost at first, as I'm sure my predecessors were," said journalism department advisor Paul Johnson. "No training manual existed, nor was anyone responsible for answering advisors' questions. Even though I had taught journalism as an adjunct for six years previously, I had no idea of the complexities that students faced.

"After I was able to go full time, things improved for both me and the students," he said.

"The biggest difference between me and the faculty advisors was the luxury of time.

"But I also have the advantage of a lot of support from a newly formed college advising center and a new university advising group."

The change to professional advising came none too soon. Students have more rules and regulations to follow than ever. In addition, the department has grown to 600 students, about twice the number of just a few years ago.

"When I was the undergraduate advisor, I had to fit advising into my teaching and service schedule," said Professor James C. Mitchell. "Even with lower enrollment in those days, it was difficult to serve students well."

"What I like best about the new advising situation is the accessibility," said senior Orli Ben-Dor. "It used to be so hard to get in to see the advisor."

Getting a full-time advisor is "one of the most important improvements we've made in recent years," Mitchell said. The advantages he cited were helping students plan and keeping the registration process working smoothly.

The need for managing students' schedules has become increasingly important. The



Paul Johnson

financial cutbacks the university has faced in the past few years have reduced the number of classes offered in many departments.

Students are finding that graduating in four years, once routine, now involves more flexibility in considering such alternatives as summer school, correspondence or online courses or transferring credits from other schools.

"I want to review every student's records at least once every semester," Johnson said. "We need to work together to plot out what we have to do to get their degrees as quickly as possible."

Meanwhile, enrollment growth has made it essential that the journalism advisor register students into the department's classes by hand. It means that 600 students pass through the advisor's office in four weeks.

"We need to be sure our classes are filled only by journalism students – and that those students have the prerequisites to succeed in the classes," he said.

"My time in the department went smoothly," said graduating senior Luke Larson. "With the way the department does registration, you can get the classes you need if you stay on top of it."

The advisor also helps determine the classes and number of sections to be offered. He has the easy part, Johnson said: "I just ask for more, always more."

The department head, with budget responsibilities, he noted, has the tougher job.

Other advising duties involve making university policies more accessible; evaluating journalism credits transferred from other institutions; updating online student records; building the department's inventory of internships; assisting with student withdrawals from classes or their readmission into the university.

In short, as Johnson says, he acts as "the answer man" for students who need help.

"I often think my most important job is being a Dutch uncle for students. For many, I am a sympathetic, non-judgmental listener, a cheerleader, a prodder and someone who cares about them. Others see me as the rule enforcer, the no-sayer, the teacher of life lessons.

"Whatever it takes I am willing to do to keep students focused on preparing themselves for success in their chosen career fields," Johnson said.

The students apparently appreciate the new roles of the advisor. According to Ben-Dor, "It's nice to drop in and not to have to say, 'Do you remember me?' It gives me great peace of mind to know that someone is there full time to help us."

## SPJ members mentor Amphi High School class

By Cameron Wood  
Journalism senior

Steve Hammel stands at the front of the Amphitheater High School classroom with his hand covering his eyes and his head shaking in exasperation.

"How many people are going to have their rough drafts ready on Friday?" Hammel, an alumnus of the University of Arizona, shouts over the chatter of the room.

Very few students raise their hands.

"An underwhelming number of you, I see," Hammel says with a half grin on his face.

While Hammel's class seems like the normal high school classroom, full of rowdy 14- and 15-year-olds who would rather be hanging out with friends than be at school for the endless hours that only school can demand, they are actually pioneers.

Hammel and his Amphi High journalism students are, with the guidance and mentoring of 10 University of Arizona journalism students, reviving the Tucson school's newspaper.

Once discontinued for lack of funding, the Desert Gazette has been back in circulation for two years now.

In the past year, looking to bring more professionalism and direction to the Gazette, Hammel contacted the UA's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists through Eugenia Bas-Isaac, project director for Project SOAR, a youth mentoring program affiliated with the UA.

Hammel subsequently retained 10 SPJ members who earn \$10 an hour for their club while coaching the Desert Gazette staff on the intricacies of effective journalism.

According to Hammel, the difference in the quality of the paper has been phenomenal.

"Once the SPJ kids started coming in, it has been night and day," Hammel says, referring to the difference they have made

in the paper, and adding, "The SPJ students have really been the ones teaching me how to teach journalism."

The mentors come into Hammel's class every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday to help the students with everything journalistic. Whether it is story organization, writing techniques or interviewing tips, the mentors are there.

"The biggest help has been with interviews," says Adriana Moreno, a freshman in Hammel's class and one of the reporters for the Gazette. "They help you figure out how to ask questions right."

Dave Waugh-Breiger, a sophomore editor and layout assistant for the Gazette, also believes that the mentors have helped.

"I think the quality of the paper has gone up so much and we have been a lot more successful on making deadlines," says Waugh-Breiger.

Everyone agrees that the cooperation between SPJ and Amphitheater High has been beneficial all around.

"The SPJ students feel like they are really making a difference in high school students' lives," says Professor Susan Knight, faculty advisor for SPJ.

Hammel agrees.

"Most of these [high school] kids couldn't put two sentences together without 'errs' and 'umms.' Now we are getting them to ask the right questions and they are really striving," he says.

The mentors are excited about the quality of work that they are involved in.

"They are still normal high school kids — sometimes you really have to pound it into them," says Dan Mitchell, a journalism senior and a mentor. "But once they learn how to manage their time right, they really get going."

Jenn Karlman, the president of the SPJ chapter and also a mentor, sees the program as a success.

"I think that they listen to us," she says. "They really seem to respond."

## Alumna Nancy Cleeland on Pulitzer-winning team

By Shawn Patrick Green  
Journalism junior

Nancy Cleeland, a 1977 graduate from the University of Arizona journalism department, was a member of the Los Angeles Times team that won a 2004 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting.

Cleeland, a reporter for the Times for seven years, was recognized for a series of stories she helped report and write on Wal-Mart and its effect on the global economy. The other Times staffers were Abigail Goldman, Evelyn Iritani and Tyler Marshall.

Cleeland said she didn't expect the stories to become as important as they did. She said similar stories were appearing in other papers during the 10-plus months the Times team was working on its series, which made her fear their work was "going to be behind everybody else's."

Then, she said, "it sat around on an editor's desk and we didn't think it would ever be published."

Cleeland said she was surprised when the Times played the series on the front page and even more surprised when she heard that college courses were being built around the stories.

"People have been using

them to argue points-of-view about the global economy," Cleeland said.

The diversity of the Wal-Mart series' writers was one of the main reasons for its success, according to Cleeland.

"We clearly had different perspectives and that helped give a balance to the stories," she said.

*"She's a smart, hard-working woman and thinker ... she cares about the world and social justice."*

Finding sources at Wal-Mart's factories was one of the most challenging tasks, according to Cleeland, who went to a Honduras clothing factory. She said such sources, including a manager and a seamstress, helped give the stories their edge.

"We tried to show every step in the process," Cleeland said, "finding people in the middle...the contractors and the managers of the factories."

Cleeland said the experience she gained at the UA was a tremendous help for her career.

"I think the U of A journalism program was fantastic," she said. "I felt really prepared after coming out."

Cleeland especially wanted to credit her mentor at the UA, Emeritus

Professor Don Carson, who helped her get her first job at the Associated Press in Tucson and was one of the first calls she made after being awarded the Pulitzer. She said of Carson that "somebody like that can really make a big difference in your life."

Carson was a journalism professor for 30 years at the UA, including six years as department head, before his retirement in 1997.

Carson said Cleeland was a "fine reporter and a clear writer who worked to include all aspects and all sides in her stories."

"Whatever she thinks I did to help her, I'm flattered," Carson said, "but she's a smart, hard-working woman and thinker, and she cares about the world and about social justice."

Cleeland currently covers the labor beat at the Times.

**Comments?  
News?  
Ideas?  
Stay in touch!**

Email the Cursor at:  
journalism@u.arizona.edu

# A l u m n i N o t e s . . .

1951

**John C. Waugh** is a journalist turned historical reporter. After 17 years as an award-winning reporter and editor at the Christian Science Monitor, he served as a media specialist for Vice President Nelson Rockefeller and then as press secretary to U.S. Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M. He began writing books on the Civil War in 1989 and has published six, including "The Class of 1846," "Reelecting Lincoln," "Surviving the Confederacy" and "On the Brink of Civil War." Among numerous awards, he has received a History Award Medal from the Daughters of the American Revolution and a 2000 Dallas Civil War Round Table Grady McWhiney Award of Merit for contributions to the scholarship and preservation of Civil War History.

A Tucson native, Waugh lives with his wife Kathleen Diane Lively, in Pantego, Texas.

1969

**Pam Ginsbach** is retiring after reporting and editing for 29 years. She has served as economics editor for Daily Labor Report and was on the staff of Daily Report for Executives, both from the Bureau of National Affairs, a Washington, D.C.-based publisher of print and electronic news, analysis and reference products. In retirement she plans to freelance and to conduct seminars for journalism students on using economic material and statistics to enhance reporting.

1974

**Michael Trout** and his wife Luann traveled to the island of Cebu in the Philippines, where they adopted their 2-year-old daughter Deborah Joy Trout. Trout continues as an editor for the New York State Tax Department and serves as a loyalist corporal in Butler's Rangers, a Revolutionary War reenactment unit.

1975

**Ann Littrell** is the only Democrat seeking nomination to be judge of the Superior Court, Division IV, in Cochise County, Arizona. She currently serves as a deputy county attorney advising Cochise County public school districts.

1976

**Florence George Graves** has won an Exceptional Merit Media Award from the

National Women's Political Caucus. EMMAs are given in recognition of outstanding coverage of women's issues. Graves won for "The Complete Anita Hill," a profile published in the Boston Globe Magazine.

1978

**Paul Wattles** is a regulatory affairs specialist for ERCOT, the company that manages the electric grid and the restructured electricity market, and resides in Liberty Hill, Texas.

1979

**Dave Roberts** is an assistant associate producer for the John Tesh Radio Show. His duties include making sure the radio show is delivered to 160 affiliates, updating the web site, editing, writing and doing research.

1980

**Judith Wesley Allen** has retired as managing editor of the University of Arizona Press and has been replaced by **Harrison Shaffer**, a former managing editor of the Tombstone Epitaph, who also was enrolled in the UA journalism master's program in 1979-80.

**Alan Fischer** accepted a job at Raytheon Corp., after spending 10 years as a business writer for the Arizona Daily Star.

1981

**Laura Stone** has taken a job with the Arizona State Library, administering its Library Services and Technology Act grants program. She had been program director of the Arizona Humanities Council. Before joining the council in 1994, Stone directed the Casa Grande Valley Historical Society Museum.

1986

**Ignacio Lobos** is an editor of Island Scene magazine and Island Scene Online, based in Oahu, Hawaii. He previously worked as a reporter for the Seattle Times.

1989

**Abe Kwok** is online editor at the Arizona Republic. He is also the Asian American Journalists Association's national vice president for print.

1993

**Savannah Guthrie**, who graduated from law school at Georgetown University, is a

reporter for Court TV. Before law school, she was a reporter for KVOA-TV, the NBC affiliate in Tucson.

1995

**Heather Lourie**, a reporter for the Orange County Register, won a second place award in the annual Associated Press Sports Editors contest in the breaking news category (papers 250,000 circulation and over). Lourie and her reporting partner, Marcia C. Smith, won for their coverage of the Kobe Bryant sexual-assault case.

**Eric Wein** is a senior account executive at Edelman, a global public relations firm, where he concentrates on the Microsoft Xbox video games account.

1996

**Ryan Schneider** is marketing and communications director for Insomniac Games, where he oversees web site content. This new position for him in Burbank, Calif., comes after seven years in public relations, plus some blogging and freelancing on martial arts.

1997

**Ann Chihak** was married in October 2003 to Curt Poff. She is a copy editor at the Arizona Republic in Phoenix.

**Heather Urquides**, whose daughter Isabella was born March 19, is an assistant city editor at the Arizona Republic.

1998

**Atle Erlingsson** is a reporter for the late news on KLAS-TV, Las Vegas.

1999

**Eric Anderson** is working as a web site editor for the television entertainment-news program Access Hollywood. He is responsible for producing, maintaining and updating the content at www.accesshollywood.com. Anderson worked at several publications in Arizona before moving to California, and worked briefly as a web editor for KNBC in Los Angeles.

**Topper Johnson** is a lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps assigned as a property officer based in Yuma, Ariz. After graduating from the UA, Johnson completed internships at the Cleveland Plain Dealer and the Oakland Tribune, and worked at ESPN for a year before enlisting.

**Leyla Knight** is attending Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland, Ore.

2000

**Jenifer Vaughan** left a job with CNN to move to Jerusalem after her engagement to Tom Fenton, the CNN bureau chief for Israel. She is studying Arabic and plans a graduate degree in international studies.

2001

**David Cieslak** and **Jen Levario** were married this spring. Both work at the Arizona Republic, Dave as public safety reporter and Jen as a page designer.

**Jenna Duncan** is a copy editor at Get Out Magazine, the weekly entertainment guide published by the East Valley Tribune in Mesa, Ariz.

**Norma Greer** is a juvenile probation officer for Pima County.

**Amanda Halligan** has joined the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee in Washington, D.C., as an assistant editor.

**Christian Richardson** is a police reporter for the Sioux City (Iowa) Journal. He previously spent 17 months working as a courts and police reporter for the Aberdeen (S.D.) American.

2002

**John Kamin** is working at the Eastern Arizona Courier as an assistant news editor.

2003

**Vanessa Cartwright** has been working full-time as a crisis counselor in Tucson and will be attending law school in the fall.

**Cyndy Cole** left her extended Dow Jones fellowship on the copy desk at the San Francisco Chronicle in order to join the copy desk of the Record Searchlight in Redding, Calif.

**Diana Jung** is working for E! Entertainment Networks. She attends network events and interviews celebrities for a column on E! Online. Her first assignment was covering the red carpet for the celebration of taping the 100th episode of Malcolm in the Middle.

**Nate Searing** is a reporter with the Sierra Vista Herald

and the Bisbee Daily Review.

**Kamy Shaygan** is enrolled in the Creighton University School of Law in Omaha, Neb.

**Joanna Thompson** is a newly licensed campus minister and began work at the UA this spring with Campus Ministries of Arizona, which is a ministry of Faith Christian Church.

**Rachel Williamson** is a news reporter for the Monitor in McAllen, Texas. **Ryan Gabrielson** is also a news reporter at the same paper.

**Maxx Wolfson** was hired by GettyImages in Santa Monica as a sports editor and caption writer and is planning to go to law school to prepare for a career in sports management.

2004

**Jennifer Karlman** planned to join KEPR-TV in Pasco, Wash., on June 21 as an anchor-reporter.

## Students' work recognized for Hearst contest

One of 10 students chosen to represent the UA journalism department in the 2004 Hearst Journalism Awards Program won a \$500 scholarship in the contest.

Jeffrey L. Sklar took 10th place in the In-Depth Writing category, and was also a national finalist in the Personality/Profile Writing category.

Other students who won department awards for their work and were entered into the contest were:

For Feature Writing, Jennifer L. Duffy and Lara A. Foresman; for Editorial Writing, Daniel L. Scarpinato and Christopher C. Wuensch; for In-Depth Reporting, Sklar and Michelle D. Shelton; for Sports Writing, Wuensch and Brett C. Fera; for Personality/Profile Writing, Sklar and Jill L. Holt; for Spot News Writing, Robert A. Purvis and Ty E. Young.

## Newswriters take Finley honors

Fall and spring winners of the Mark Finley Gold Pen Award for Best Beginning Newswriter were announced during the "Just Desserts" event on May 5.

The fall 2003 winners were: first, Aaron D. Mackey; second, Dana Crudo and third, Monica J. Warren.

The spring 2004 winners were: first, Allison M. Winters; second, Nina L. Conrad and third, Adam J. Gaub.

Both first-place winners received checks for \$750. The second-place winners won \$500 and each third-place won \$250.

## Updating news about the faculty

**Professor Bill Greer** will start a sabbatical in July. Greer's project involves a photo documentary of life along the U.S.-Mexico border at the start of the 21st century.

His research will include the U.S.-Mexico borderlands in Arizona and California

Greer plans to work out of a California office. His photos will be edited and selected for display on a research web site connected to the journalism department.

**Professor James C. Mitchell's** second novel, "Choke Point," is scheduled for October publication by St. Martin's Minotaur.

Tucson private investigator Brinker and all the other characters who survived "Lovers Crossing" will be back for the second in the series.

In "Choke Point," Brinker works to solve a double murder case that begins with a riot on Fourth Avenue after the University of Arizona plays for the national basketball championship.

Also, Mitchell was a featured speaker at the University of Idaho College of Law's First Amendment Symposium on April 2.

The Idaho Law Review published his article, "Rosenbloom's Ghost: How a Discredited Decision Lives on in Libel Law," in connection with the symposium.

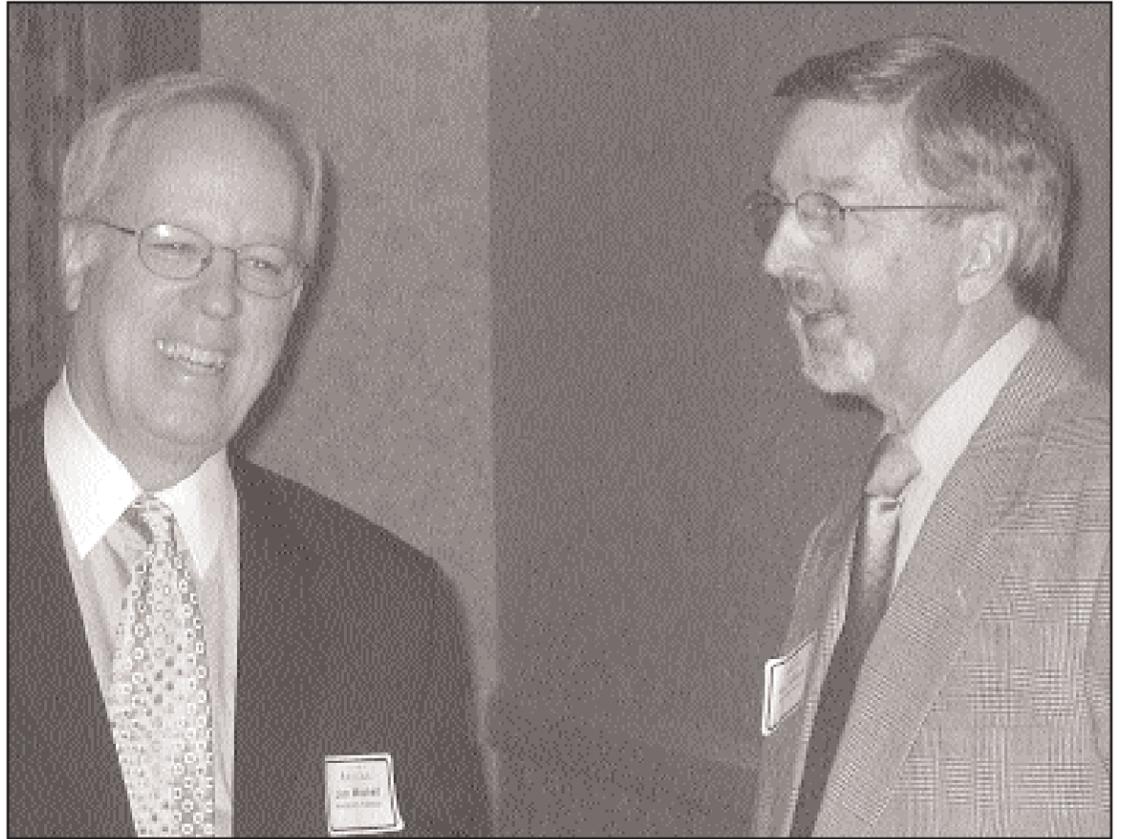
When he isn't traveling in his RV with his wife, Marilyn, **Professor Emeritus James W. Johnson** is at work on his book, "The Wow Boys: The Team That Revolutionized Football."

It is about how a new coach, Clark Shaughnessy, introduced the T formation to college football, which led to the Stanford Indians' undefeated season in 1940. Within a decade, about 250 of the 350 major college football teams had adopted the T formation.

As for their travels, the Johnsons motored through the western United States and Canada for four months last fall. They also went to Big Bend National Park in April.

**Professor Emeritus Jim Patten**, a former journalism department head, was among several journalism educators published in the spring 2004 Journal of the National Conference of Editorial Writers.

His article, "J-Students Have It Both Ways (Sort Of)," was part of a package devoted to the issue of whether a liberal arts education or journalism school was the best preparation for a journalism career.



Cursor photo by Will Seberger  
Professor James C. Mitchell, left, laughs with journalism department senior academic advisor Paul Johnson during the "Just Desserts" festivities.

## SPJ panel explores impact of new privacy act revisions on the public's right to know

By **Andrea C. Kelly**  
Journalism senior

Print and broadcast journalists, health care public information officers and firefighters may not agree on what exactly HIPAA means, but they agree that the law has changed their jobs over the last year.

The regulation, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, underwent changes last April. In the past year, those changes have contributed to confusion within the health care industry and between the industry and the journalists who cover it.

Specifically, there is no agreement on what exactly HIPAA means regarding information distribution — a problem for journalists, who try to provide information on public health, safety and welfare.

About 30 people turned out on April 22 when the UA chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists held a panel discussion to generate a dialogue among professionals affected by HIPAA.

Adam Goldberg, paramedic for Northwest Fire and Rescue in Tucson, said fire departments try to provide some of the same public health awareness services that journalists do, and that HIPAA has also limited them.

"We're faced with some of the same challenges (as journalists)," Goldberg said.

Fire departments try to be a source for information on safety, Goldberg said, and if a story that others could learn from cannot be published in local news media, it is a loss for the whole community.

Firefighters cannot release information about victims.

"We are held accountable civilly and criminally," Goldberg said, adding that the conflict between public safety and legality leads to an "ethical and moral dilemma."

Jan Howard, public information officer for Carondelet Health Network in Tucson, said HIPAA creates more work for all parties.

A journalist must first find the patient's name, Howard said, before a public information officer for the hospital can verify that the patient was admitted.

She said information officers have to do more work because they have to serve as intermediaries between patients and media.

Barbara Grijalva, health beat anchor for Tucson's CBS television station, KOLD, said she will repeatedly call a hospital and ask the PIO to ask patients or the patients' families if they will talk to her. She said she knows this creates a lot of work for the PIO, but she has no other option under HIPAA.

Another journalist on the panel said HIPAA needs to be clarified for all parties.

David Cieslak, public safety reporter for the Arizona Republic in Phoenix, said many of the problems with HIPAA stem from varying interpretations about what can legally be released. For example, he said,

a journalist may interpret the act in a very liberal way, while a doctor may take a more cautious approach.

Another reporter, Leslie Anne Newell of the Arizona Daily Star, said HIPAA hasn't precluded her from getting information, it has "just made it harder."

Though there are details that can't legally be reported now, Newell said, "there's still a lot you can say."

HIPAA was not intended to hinder public awareness, said Jim Penny of the Rabb Penny law firm in Tucson. It was supposed to prevent doctors or pharmacies from selling patient information, and also to allow patients to access their own medical information.

Though each of the professionals on the panel had a different role in public information, all said HIPAA changed their jobs in the past year.

The sentiment of the group seemed to be summed up in four words: "I don't like HIPAA," said Grijalva.

*Interpretation can be a problem: a journalist and a cautious doctor may view the act differently*

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