



Electronic Media Newsletter

E-MEDIA GRADUATES GATHER AT MEREDITH

BY PROF. LYTLE, NEWSLETTER EDITOR



Time has been generally kind to members of the E-Media classes of 1989-1991 who organized an informal reunion on Relays Saturday. The agenda included a detailed tour of the Meredith production facilities and a viewing of the 1990 JMC114 final project. Rob Sobkoviak (RTV'90) and Michelle (Burdeen) Jackson (RTV'90) coordinated the planning. (Read Jackson's account on page 17.)

GOING "BEYOND THE BLUE LINE"

BY REBECCA ALTENHOFEN

Following last fall's award-winning production, Radio-TV majors in JMC 114 had some big shoes to fill this semester. These students decided to take on a lesser known sport than wrestling.

"Beyond the Blue Line" follows three high school students who spend



their life dedicated to hockey in Des Moines.

The Des Moines Buccaneers are part of the United States Hockey League, one of the top junior ice hockey leagues in the United States. Players 20 years old and younger join the amateur league to improve their chances for NCAA or NHL play.

JMC 114 class decided to explore this world. Following the boys to games, practices, and school required hours of hard work by the production crew, only to be followed by hours of editing.

The show aired on the College

MORE HOCKEY ON PAGE 2

ALUMNI ACHIEVER

Rich Harrington (BNews'94) was among six alumni recognized during Relays Weekend for their career accomplishments and loyalty to Drake. Harrington is owner and CEO of RHED Pixel, a production house specializing in visual communications. He has produced more than 25 books about photography and digital media, including certified materials for Apple and Adobe. (More in Alumni Updates)

LYTLE GETS SHELLEY

Prof. John Lytle was recognized by the Iowa Broadcast News Association with the organization's lifetime service award. The surprise announcement came at IBNA's May convention.



The person for whom the award is named, Jack Shelley, was longtime news director for WHO-AM and TV before joining the Iowa State University faculty. Shelley lived in Ames until his death this fall. Lytle was recognized for, among other accomplishments, surveying the IBNA membership each spring about their salaries and job demands.

(HOCKEY, FROM PAGE 1)

Channel and was screened for the Des Moines Buccaneers. Praise has come from many viewers including Brian Werger, director of Communications for the United States Hockey League.



"I was blown away when I saw the video, because of how it captured the story of a USHL player and gave such an in-depth perspective from the players themselves. This is the best piece I have ever seen put together from a source outside the League."

Within three days of "Beyond the Blue Line" being uploaded (vimeo.com/17343161) the show received over 1,000 views.

With more airings on the College Channel and a thriving Facebook page, (facebook.com/pages/Beyond-The-Blue-Line/119133421480903) students can enjoy their success.

We're embedded in nine additional sites, excluding the Bucs and USHL.

J73 COVERS CANDIDATES

The 10-member Radio News class enjoyed the opportunity to cover candidates whose names appeared on the November General Election ballot.

Four-minute newscasts on "941thedog" frequently included the voices of Gov. Chet Culver (he lost to former governor and Republican Terry Branstad), U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley (he defeated Democrat Roxanne Conlin) and Cong. Leonard Boswell, who swept away a Des Moines Republican challenger.

Many students attended Election Night events with their digital cameras and voice recorders.

PROF. WADE "RETIRES"

I'm teaching a First-Year Seminar this fall at Drake. I still work at Prairie Meadows and help out with the I-Cubs. I still announce Iowa State men's basketball.



I'm also a Division officer in the Nebraska-Iowa District of Kiwanis and travel making presentations and conducting installations for a year.

I did retire mainly for my health. I have five blockages in my four 1982 heart bypasses...but none serious enough yet to operate on. So, I run 30 minutes three days a week; swim 45 minutes three days a week and bike when I can. I've lost 20 pounds.

Oh, I had rotator cuff surgery in August and JUST completed PT in early-December on that. I'll try to take some money back from Lytle if I can learn to golf again this spring!



Of course, my heart is with my granddaughter (Chloe) and we travel to Tallahassee more than we should. I hope to spend a month there in March when basketball is over.

Finally, I've often dreamed of retiring to read. Not a text, not a research article or training manuals! I have read 11 "for fun" books since I retired in May!

RADIO NEWS TRAVELS

In what's become a fall semester tradition, the J73 Radio News class visited with Van Harden (RTV'73) at the Clear Channel Building on Ingersoll Avenue.



Harden is program director for WHO-AM and sports-talk radio KXNO-AM and he co-hosts the award-winning "Van and Bonnie Show" weekday mornings on 1040.

94-1 SPORTS UPDATE

BY A. J. HARRISON, SPORTS DIRECTOR

This has been an exciting year for 94-1 Sports. We have increased our sports coverage to cover the Drake volleyball team and the Drake softball team.

The softball team had a great spring and the volleyball team started off 15-0 so both of these teams were fun to cover.



Harrison and Rachel Yancey Call Basketball

Our regular sports have been fun as well as Drake football had a good fall and both the basketball teams have a bright future in front of them.

MORE 94-1 SPORTS ON PAGE 3

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94-1 SPORTS FROM PAGE 2

Finally, 94 1 covered every Roosevelt football game, home and away, so many of our commentators had the opportunity to see different venues across the metro and state.

For the first time this year, we produced video reports from the games that we call. Our plan for spring semester is to increase our video presence and to also start doing a weekly recap and preview show of Drake athletic teams.

94 1 Sports travels to Cedar Falls in January to cover the Drake-UNI men's basketball matchup and will also follow the men's and women's basketball teams at the Missouri Valley Conference tournaments.

This spring we plan on covering softball and we hope to expand the channels we use.

941thedog.com posts our videos plus our complete sports schedule.

DRAKE DIGITAL NEWS BENEFITS E-MEDIA

BY ABRAHAM SWEE, PRODUCER

An alternate outlet for E-Media reporting, DrakeDigitalNews.com has once again posted hundreds of pieces over the last year.

Students in J73 Radio News, J100 Television Field Photography, J173 Broadcast Reporting and the J193 Broadcast News Capstone ("DrakeLINE") produce Web versions of their on-air stories.

Striving to be fast and accurate, I post text with media, including radio actualities, video sound bites, and digital stills. Students use Audacity, Photoshop, Final Cut Pro and MS Word to prepare their material.

DDN postings during fall 2010 included 111 from J73 and 41 from J100.

We saved this PDF at its smallest file size to assist e-mail delivery.

"POUND 4 POUND" WINS

BY TONY TRACY

The fall 2009 J114 class produced a 30 minute television show as our semester-long project. Pound 4 Pound previewed the high school wrestling season with a Central Iowa twist.

Four groups of students visited local high schools to profile the schools and a leader in each wrestling program. Ankeny, Southeast Polk, Urbandale and Waukee were eager to see what we would produce and were very helpful with our project.

Our style was what I liked to think of as a cross between two popular cable reality shows.

We mirrored the format for "Deadliest Catch" as a different way to tell the stories of different high school teams and wrestlers with similar concerns and practices. We tried to be personal much like "Hard Knocks" with our interview style and in depth individual story lines.

We wanted the wrestlers to tell their stories. I believe we were successful to that end.

Each student put their own touch on "Pound 4 Pound" and that's why it came together.

We submitted the show for state and national recognition.

The Communicator Awards granted us with a 2010 Award of Distinction, while the Iowa Broadcast News Association added a First Place Award for Sports Coverage.

"STUDIO 100" FALL SEMESTER REVIEW

Assisted by J57 and J114 crew members, ten J100 TV Field Photography students produced, live to server with no edits, a half-hour review containing their best reporting. The program aired three times Dec. 8 on The College Channel. Many of the students will help produce and direct DrakeLINE's 12 news magazines during Spring 2011.



Live production gets the juices flowing



Which camera?



DTC's multimedia guru James McNab directs



J100 selected two of their own to co-anchor

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Alumni (In Order Received)

David Mossner (BNews'84)

I am entering my fifth year as Development Director at Lutheran High School of Indianapolis - which involves donor visits, writing, marketing, and communications - and continue to enjoy the challenge. The journalism training at Drake continues to pay dividends each day. Biggest personal accomplishment? Rhonda and I have now been married 25 years and both of our boys are on their own!

Jeff Marcus (RTV'85) takes us on a musical journey covering Rock and Roll's golden years of the mid 1950s through the 1980s. A History of Collectible American 45 RPM Record Sleeves is jam packed with information covering 355 artists and 433 fabulous, full color photos of classic and rare vinyl single picture sleeves-many of which are published here for the first time- in a two volume series! With stories behind the artists and their releases, including a rarity scale accompanying each entry, these indispensable books provide the visual history of Rock and Roll in a format that will delight music lovers, collectors, and historians alike. Visit recordsleevebooks.com to learn more.

Kelly D. Nass (BNews'99)

I am currently living in Honolulu, HI. I finished up as the Production coordinator for "LOST" in the spring and stayed on the island to be the Production Coordinator for the new ABC TV drama "Off The Map." It's a new doctor show by the producers of "Grey's Anatomy" and "Private Practice" - set in the "Amazon." We start airing in January, so check us out! I just finished the Honolulu Half Marathon, and I run around Diamond Head almost every day (unless I am relaxing on the beach on the weekends). The show ends production in February, and I will head back to my real home in Los Angeles.

J.D. Fox (RTV'05)

Greetings from Gilbert, Arizona. I left the world of intercollegiate athletics in August to take a job with Stretch Internet, a video and audio streaming provider. We mainly focus on college sports, so although I am no longer working in college athletics, I am keeping a close eye on things. We have several MVC schools under contract, including some directional school that may be in the same state as Drake, but will always cut a deal for the Bulldogs if the opportunity arises. My girlfriend and I are enjoying the Phoenix suburbs, and have two guest bedrooms that people can crash in if they want to come out for spring training.

Already have **Kyle Lobner (RTV'05)** coming down with his wife for some Cactus League baseball, but still have room if anybody wants to experience awesome winter in March. Still staying active in broadcasting with some freelance play-by-play work and a new podcast with **Travis Monroe (RTV'07)**. Our title? "D+ Sports Advantage." Yes, we went there. Check us out on iTunes.

Tony Lorino (RTV'03)

As my girlfriend-turned-fiancee Kate Vasconcellos (Drake AS'05) matched for her surgical residency at KU Medical Center in Kansas City, I was able to transfer within Entercom Radio to KGEX, our new "Gen X Radio" format as assistant program director. This is one of the first stations in the country in the format; I'd describe it as "songs we grew up with" (or more apropos, "songs we played on KDCS during college.") I work with **Kimberly (Chatten) Justice (RTV'93)**, Jason (Justice) and Kim have been great tour guides and showed me plenty of places to get fat... I mean..."enjoy the delicious barbecue the city has to offer." I'm handling mornings and am music director for the station too. Kate and I are planning our wedding for Fall of 2011 here in Kansas City and are pumped to welcome some Drake friends for the fun.

Cara (Stein) Rinkoff (BNews'03)

I have finally moved to DC (with my husband and cat of course) and am working at TBD News (formerly News Channel 8). I am producing the Noon & 4:30 shows three days a week, as well as the weekend morning shows.



Amanda Lewis (BNews'01)

I've been reporting and anchoring weekends for KCCI in Des Moines for almost nine years. This year the Iowa Supreme Court appointed me Expanded Media Coordinator for Region 8. I also serve the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Greater Iowa Chapter as VP of Communications. I received the Bismarck State College Alumni Association's Rising Star Award in

May for career and charity achievements. And a sweet new addition to our family, my daughter Hazel was born in August. My son Elliot turned 3 in October. Husband Jeff Eckoff, a University of Missouri grad, writes for the business desk at the Des Moines Register.

After 20 years as an independent producer **Neenah Ellis (RTV'77)** has become the general manager of public radio station WYSO FM 91.3 in Yellow Springs, Ohio. After graduation from Drake, Ellis worked for National Public Radio in Washington, DC, as a writer and field producer for the network's flagship news program "All Things Considered." She won three Peabody awards for her work at NPR. She is also the author of "If I Live to be 100: Lessons from the Centenarians," a New York Times best-seller. In her role as GM, Ellis has increased the station's local programming and brought many new producers to the airwaves. She invites contact from Drake grads.

Bob Gillies (BNews'89)

I am an outpatient drug and alcohol therapist at The Woods at Parkside, Columbus, Ohio.

Ann Kaatz (RTV'97)

I'm still working at Comcast Programming Group (E!, Style, G4, Golf Channel, Versus) as the IT Director of Service Delivery in the IT Operations department. I'm waiting for the merger with NBCU to happen and see how it will impact my job (fingers crossed). But the biggest news was the birth of my son, Charlie Dane LoBue on Sept. 30th. I may be biased, but I think he's the cutest, smartest, and best baby ever!

Tiffany (Abell) Tauscheck (BNews'01)

Mark and I are expecting our first baby - due early December. I continue to enjoy working with media from all over the world as vice president of marketing, while promoting Greater Des Moines locally as well, at the Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Sara (Opalinski) Maloney (RTV'00)

I'm still with Walsh Media Inc in Oak Brook IL (over 9 years) as a Senior Project Manager. Brian Maloney (A&S 00) and I are expecting baby boy #2 in late February. Big brother Liam (age 2) will be in for a shock.

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Barbara Kao (BNews'03)

I'm working at TAITRA (Taiwan External Trade Development Council) Taiwan, as a trade show project manager. Next year, my two trade shows called "Taipei Pack" and "Foodtech & Pharmatech Taipei" will be held at the same time. I might not have time to sleep, but well... it's going to be fun. Besides working, I try to exercise as much as I can, when I have time I play golf and basketball. Recently, I start to join my friends for more activities; however, in Taipei we can usually go to eat, drink, and karaoke. Things I like to fulfill? Read more and go back to school, I think...and get married...ha...

Photo: Barbara on the Great Wall in Beijing, September, 2010.



Zach Tecklenburg (BNews'09)

I am still reporting at KTIV in Sioux City. I've gotten to interview Chuck Norris and Tom Brokaw, among many other interesting people. I've also done a lot of filling in on the anchor desk, which I like too. Contract is expiring in less than a year, so hopefully by the next holiday newsletter, I'll be e-mailing you from a bigger market.

Aliza Reisberg (RTV'09)

I'm still in Des Moines, working at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development downtown. I also tape and occasionally edit mass every Sunday at the Basilica of St. John, as I have been doing for over two years now. Sam and I got engaged last December, but we haven't set a date yet as we're waiting for him to graduate from Drake Law School.



I've become really involved at Furry Friends Refuge, a local no-kill animal shelter in Clive (soon to move to West Des Moines), caring for the animals, doing outreach, and occasionally photography and videography of the resident animals. Sam and I have adopted two homeless cats and fostered a puppy in the last year. I hope to do more photo and video marketing for the shelter in the near future.

Karen Fuller (RTV'89)

I celebrated seven years with KCTV5 in Kansas City in October. I moved after 10 great years as the evening co-anchor at KATV in Little Rock. In Kansas City, I have enjoyed see my children grow and now, attend school. They are 10 and 8, a girl and boy respectively. We take advantage of the many cultural events the city offers, and as a single mother now, I also appreciate the many different opportunities there are to entertain and educate the kids.



I work for the CBS affiliate. Sadly, the CBS Evening News with Katie Couric has not performed as well as we had hoped, so our evening newscasts remain a solid second place. The margin at 10 p.m. is closing, though, so fingers are crossed for a great February. Enclosed are some recent shots while taping promos or just goofing off.

Emily Brady (RTV'10)

During spring and summer produced/directed a PSA for the Federal Court System of Iowa, worked media relations for the U.S. Track and Field Championships at Drake Stadium (Met LoLo Jones!!), worked on a video crew for WebStream Productions to broadcast the Softball Championships from Drake and worked media relations/stat crew at the Women's NCAA Basketball Tournament in Ames. I also produced/edited media guides for many Drake sports, worked media relations at the 2010 Relays and more! I am employed at St. Catherine of Siena (next to Drake Campus) as parish administrative assistant. This position requires me to be the communications 'hub' for the parish, putting out weekly publications, updating their website, designing invitations, brochures etc. and working with diocesan communications teams. I have also been certified as a chiropractic assistant at Norwalk Chiropractic. I contribute to PR talks, marketing campaigns, designing gift certificates & logos, and work on general clinic communications. My Drake education has allowed me to obtain two jobs that are very rewarding.

Brian Weiss (BNews'93) practices architecture for the for Pahl firm in Denver. Weiss contributes to this newsletter each season with his masthead photo treatments.

Randy Beamer (BNews'81) reports with his camera and anchors newscasts for WOAI, San Antonio. "The older I get, the more I realize what you and the whole Journalism School meant. I hope you pass that on to all those young kids who may still be interested in what's left of news." ("I now sound like your grandfather.") Beamer's won three Emmys and an Edward R. Murrow among his many awards.

Skye Giordano (RTV'99) works for Cannonball Advertising in St. Louis. He's helping raise "an adorable 2-year-old" and occasionally teaching at Washington University.

Check out 941thedog@drake.edu

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Chris Parrish (BNews'05)

Things have changed a lot over the past year. Six months ago, I was working as the executive producer at WOI-TV, Des Moines. Now I'm the weekday 10 p.m. producer at WHDH-TV, the NBC affiliate in Boston. So far so good.



Prof. Wade & Parrish, Spring 2010

Who knew not driving would feel so good! My legs aren't too sore from walking and the public train/bus system is great. In September I asked Catie Bielecki (JO '08) to marry me. We plan to marry during October. But you make it to Boston ... or live here, shoot me an e-mail. cparrish@whdh.com Would love to grab a drink or catch a Red Sox game.

Deanna Wheeler (BNews'06)

I'm still working for Lake Media in Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. The company encompasses a daily newspaper, several weeklies, a magazine, a few special niche publications, a website.... I "officially" work as a general assignment reporter for the Lake Sun newspaper. As our newsroom shrank in the past year, and I was the only one who took an interest in it, I unofficially became the web/social media manager. The duties are in addition to my regular work (no slacking



here) with no pay/benefit increase. Gotta love journalism! I'm building a new, tourism-driven website that is considered the publisher's pet-project (so, it must be perfect). Since I don't have a title, I was brought into the discussions six months after they started and the website is supposed to launch in (early-December). Did I mention it uses a completely different web

content management system than what our news site uses? With the amount of time I'm spending, I could have built a website using a foundation from the old system. I continue to use my reporting skills in other areas of my work. Inside sources with one of the municipalities I cover say I'm on the right track with my open records requests. Also, after several extremely tragic crime stories involving children in a local county, I'm putting together an enterprise story on mental health/well-being services offered to children and teens. My role as my grandparents' caretaker has fluctuated with their declining health. I moved back in late June after my grandma unexpectedly died and my grandpa, in a stubborn fit, fired all of his nurses. I was more stubborn than he – much to his dismay – and hired several of them back to help care for him during the day while I'm at work. Can't find "that special guy" in Missouri who can tolerate my insane schedule and fanaticism for the Huskers.

Shelley (Russell) Skuster (BNews'08)

God has certainly blessed me with great opportunities this year! I'm happily a "one-man-bander" at KPTM Fox 42 News in Omaha. I still can't believe I get paid anything to do what I do each and every day...and in Market 75?! I have to say it's just as fun as it was when I was younger and pretended to be on "TV" with my parents home video camera! I also started my own business in September -- Visualities Videography -- specializing in wedding videography, but I will do just about any freelance video gig when asked! It's an opportunity I will fully pursue in a few years when my contract is up at Fox. For now, it's pure enjoyment.



Chris, friend Alysia Johnson and Shelley

I continue to enjoy spending time with my husband of two years, Chris, who still loves his job as an Omaha Police Officer, and our spoiled dog, Maggie, who lights up our days (or evenings, I should say...).

Keith Laug (BNews'82)

I probably mentioned that I'm a grandpa already. Remember I had a baby Senior Year when I was a Drake. Now, she's had a Baby. (Old News) I've taken a new job at AT&T. I'm now a Project Manager ensuring that our IP routers are installed and upgraded around the World. It's a great job. I remained technical and my news reporting skills are put to great use. Just the fact! 26 years now at AT&T. My younger daughter is a freshman at Loyola. Melanie remains healthy. Last year I rode Rag-



brai with Lance Armstrong's team and raised \$2700. (You don't have to mention that I fell and broke my scapula and two ribs). I'm all healed. I'm already signed up for 2011! I've dusted off the thespian in me and have landed a few roles in the last year. Most fun was the role as the Master of Ceremonies in the musical "All that Jazz". I sang and danced! Go figure.

Ellen (Stoffel) Baker (RTV'01)



Ron and I became new parents again. Clara Marie was born on May 18th...the day we put an offer on a new house! So with the new baby, the big move and keeping up with Sophia (2 1/2) and Christian (14), things have been a little hectic. I am back at work full force now freelancing in the corporate communications realm where business has finally picked up after a couple of very slow years. And my self-started photography venture, EB Photo turned 1 in May and is continuing to grow (www.ellenbakerphoto.com). I consider myself very lucky to have not only one, but 3 jobs that I love — mommy, producer and photographer. (ellenbakerphoto.smugmug.com)

Typos or errors? We hope not, but it could happen!

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Alexa Horwart (BNews'08)

I just returned to the country (in November) from my second job in Indonesia. During the school year of 2009-2010 I was living in a rural part of Indonesia teaching English to high schoolers with a Fulbright Fellowship. I lived in a small, Muslim town and became a part of the community by teaching English, holding cultural events and lectures, fishing and harvesting coconuts with the locals and eating



lots of mangoes! After finishing the 10 month grant I traveled around SE Asia and Australia for awhile before returning home. Apparently, though, I wasn't done traveling yet! I spent only two months at home before returning to Indonesia to lead a group of American college students on a study abroad trip. Now I am home again and feel slightly settled down. I'm actually enjoying the Minnesotan cold compared to the equatorial heat of Indonesia and soaking up time with family over the holidays. I am still adjusting to life in the US again and trying to figure out what comes next... maybe grad school, a job, or more travel, who knows?!

Maggie (Buttweiler) Bleher (BNews'96)

I am working part time in PR for Cruise Holidays (same place I've been since I left TV news producing in 2004). They graciously allowed me to reduce my hours after the birth of our first child in 2009. I wear many hats in this role...from PR consultant to franchise communications director to marketing "quality control" and social media specialist. Somehow I am doing more in my 24 hours on the job per week than I ever did in 40! In my free time, my SJMC friends remain among my best friends. I



went to Cancun with a couple Drake girlfriends in March, and invited fellow grad Dana Hill to enjoy the inaugural sailing of the NCL Epic cruise ship out of Miami in July. The attached photo is from that little weekend escapade. And finally, my husband and I are expecting our second child in early April! Exciting times in Minnesota!

Mark Carlson (BNews'10)

My experience in media has already been very rewarding. I was fortunate enough to start working the April before graduation. I started as a part-time reporter at KCCI in Des Moines. While there I reported on everything from the floods of 2010 to a span of eight fatalities in as many days on Interstate 80 on a stretch in Jasper County. My most rewarding experience was when I was able to share the story of a pregnant woman whose life was saved when she was pulled from a burning car in Des Moines. The story turned into a three-part exclusive series where I interviewed all involved.



In October I took a full-time job at KCRG-TV9 in Cedar Rapids. I have spent a lot of time working in both the Iowa City and Cedar Rapids newsrooms. My focus has mainly been on investigative reporting, but I am still able to cover a lot of spot news. I continue to be thankful for my Drake education, which gave me the tools I need when I am on the job.

Jules Gray (RTV'75)

Starting year 10 at the Science Center of Iowa this spring. Working in the programs department... calling on all my Drake University learning in PR, Marketing and Theatre to make it a great place to visit. Highlights include floor directing weathercasts for WHO at the HD13 Weather Station on site each noon. Still playing the Polar Express Conductor character at Cocoa and Cookies and Breakfasts with Santa for the holidays. Yes, I have the very good fortune to greatly resemble a cartoon character when I get into the costume. Will also light the city tree at the Brenton Skating Plaza this year. What fun!

Brittany Weiss (BNews'09)

Only recently did the clouds part and light shine through on me. At the end of May, I



moved to New York City to join AOL's celebrity website PopEater.com. Never in my life did I picture myself constructing interviews with Drake, Victoria's Secret models and standing on every red carpet in New York. Truthfully, I've never felt happier in my life to be doing something that makes me want to get up every morning and work. My advice to people, finish school, do what you love, wherever you want. It can be done.

Linda (Knowles) Shelton (BNews'82)

I am actively looking for a corporate or internal communications or public relations position after a restructuring in my department eliminated my position. I'd like to network with any Drake alumni in the Boston area or with their contacts here. I'm on LinkedIn. Otherwise, I'm tackling those projects that never seem to get done and spending time with my fiancé and my daughter. She's a senior and has applied early decision to a university in the Northeast. We're keeping our fingers crossed! (DU doesn't offer the major she wants.)

Jamie Dorrell (BNews'08)

I left the fitness industry and am now an office administrator at R/W Medco, a distributorship for the Orthopedic division of Smith & Nephew. I live in Waukee now with my boyfriend and dog, Jinx.

Damaris Parchment (BNews'06)

I am still with the Principal Financial Group going on 5 yrs as a Call Center message specialist for the Specialty Benefits Division. My spouse Joinel Vilmael recently moved to Retirement and Investment Services Sales Division, a huge blessing because he is doing what he loves. Son Josiah turned 3 in November and son Joshua turned 1 on July 8th. We are truly blessed and still love it here in Des Moines.

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Rich Harrington (BNews, RTV'94)

Things are clicking along with my company, RHED Pixel (though any day the economy would like to recover is okay with me). I authored multiple books this year: From Still to Motion, Motion Graphics with Adobe Creative Suite 5, and Professional Web Video as well as updates to Understanding Adobe Photoshop and Photoshop for Video. The conference schedule has been busy with appearances at NAB, the International Broadcasting Show, Macworld, DV Expo, and Photoshop World. Personally, life is good. Both kids are in school and doing well. I am juggling all sorts of things, but have still managed to take a vacation, be a Cub Scout leader, and enjoy time with my wife. I was deeply honored to be named the Distinguished Young Alumnus of 2010 at this year's Drake Relays (a big honor and a surprise).

Sarah Stokes (BNews'00)

I am happy to say I'm still anchoring the 9 and 10 p.m. newscasts at WEAU 13 News in Eau Claire, WI! I'm very glad the elections are over, as I am the one who plans our coverage here. (Uffda). But, I buried the lead!



Chris & Sarah anchor election coverage

We are expecting our first child in January! We're so excited and so are the viewers (we're 10 p.m. co-anchors). It's like this baby has thousands of aunts and uncles out there. The station has me blogging about the baby experience, and so I'd say that's the highlight of 2010!

Chris Scholl (BNews'85)

I just re-upped with CBS Evening News and continue to produce the "Follow the Money" segment for correspondent Sharyl Attkisson. We won an Emmy this year for package of congressional oversight stories we did -- one especially involving Rep. Steven Buyer of Indiana and his questionable involvement with a nonprofit. Buyer announced he would not seek reelection not long after our story. Beyond that, bigger news with my son, Adam, who is a White House intern. I'm unbelievably proud of him.

John Olson (RTV) and Martha Chaput (RTV'04)

married in Malibu on July 16! Martha works at Oprah Winfrey's new network, OWN, as a production manager. John is freelancing as an associate producer and currently working on a show for Lifetime.



Julie Mann (BNews'89)

I accepted a promotion to the role of managing editor at Chicago's all news station WBBM Newsradio 780 AM where I've been a reporter and anchor for 13 years. I now guide the daily news operations at the station with the help of a large staff of veteran journalists. It was a busy year for news in Chicago with the conviction of our former Governor, the announcement our longtime Mayor was ready to leave City Hall, the ongoing struggles of the economy, visits by President Obama, a nasty primary and general election along tornados, ice storms and a strong earthquake (by Illinois standards) There is no better place for news than Chicago.

Travis Monroe (RTV'07)

Bridget and I started the year by leaving our jobs to pursue new interests in New York City. Bridget left Reader's Digest to become a content strategist for Digitas Health, and I became executive director of the MacDella Cooper Foundation. At the end of August we decided that our time in New York had ended, so we packed a moving van and drove back to the Midwest. After some successful job hunt-

ing, we are buying our first home. Bridget is the digital strategist for Beehive PR, and I'm a reserve teacher in the Minneapolis School District while freelancing for several production houses. Although we miss the East Coast, we're happy to be back in the Midwest! I've also started a weekly sports podcast "D+ Sports Advantage" with **J.D. Fox (RTV'05)**. Check us out at dplussports.libsyn.com/.



Photo from the MacDella Cooper Foundation's "Fashion Week Finale Party."

Kailyn Reid (BNews'05)

This is my fourth year as a public relations specialist for the Omaha Public Schools. I still love the variety, including media relations, writing, photography, videography, editing, website management and event planning. My fiancé, J.T., and I are busy planning a wedding in May 2011! We're also enjoying the occasional home improvement project and spending time with Lucky, a 3-year-old rat terrier mix we rescued from the Humane Society.

Kelsi (Roberts) Simpson (RTV'10)

I graduated in May with a BAJMC and a BA in Sociology. I married 2009 Drake Law School alumnus Ryan Simpson July 3. We live in Omaha where I am employed with Children's Respite Care Center, working with special needs children. I am actively seeking employment in radio.



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Brendan Mark (BNews'06)

After 3 years at KTVT in Dallas-Fort Worth, I moved to Nashville to become an executive producer at WSMV.

Clay Paciorek (RTV'10)

I recently moved to Baltimore and am responsible for creating all of the video content for the Loyola University Maryland Athletic Department. We have a brand new stadium and



scoreboard that I've gotten to play with and create all the videos for. I am loving everything about making videos for sports, Baltimore, and jumping right into the video field.

Sarah Gordon Hamilton (RTV'02)

I'm in my fourth year of teaching in Des Moines. I'm also the debate, Mock Trial and speech coach and assistant drama coach. Each year I'm feeling a little more comfortable with the assignment, but I never imagined I would be coaching debate and helping with plays. Last year, my Readers Theatre Speech team was nominated for the All-State Competition, and for the past three years, my Radio Broadcast Speech team has advanced to the State Competition. I'm amazed at this accomplishment as I was a journalism major (not theatre!), but I know my Radio/TV major helped prepare me to be ready for anything they throw at you!

Sara Van Aernum (BNews'01)

Things are great here in D.C. Won an Emmy for WTTG's coverage of Obama's Inauguration, which was broadcast on FOX stations across the country. I was in the booth for 5 hours that day and loved every minute of it. On a personal note, I'm a grown-up now. I bought my first place and shortly there after adopted a dog and a cat. I'm still traveling a ton. In 2010, I've visited Vancouver, South Korea, Hawaii, Mexico, as well as several trips to Minnesota and New York City to visit my family.

Paul Leavitt (RTV'72) serves on Drake's Board of Trustees. Now retired from USA Today, he's a welcome visitor to Meredith Hall on weekends when the Trustees meet.

George Norman (BNews'93)

After working for WCCO-TV for 13 years and the business about 20, I landed a great opportunity at Target as a project manager in their Meetings and Media Production department. My decision to leave the broadcasting business involved timing and opportunity. I knew, while my passion for news has always been a part of my interests, I had reached a point that new challenges and opportunity were important. To date, I've been working with production staff on both internal and external video projects, some of which you can see on the in-store channel which plays on their video wall in the electronics section. So far it's presenting fun and new opportunities and I look forward to seeing where this path takes me. The nice part is that WCCO-TV sits right across the street from my office tower and my commute was shortened by one block. Drake University's J School provided an outstanding foundation.

Jennifer (Grannan) Johnson (BNews'02)

At the end of February, my husband and I welcomed our first baby. Cullen Matthew is a happy and healthy little boy who makes every day exciting! While he's a tiny little guy, he has quickly taken over our home. We put our



house up for sale and accepted an offer within two weeks. We will hopefully be into our new home before Christmas! I continue to work at Creative Communication & Design, a marketing and advertising firm in Wausau, Wisconsin. While our clients are always looking to get the biggest bang for their buck, many of them are beginning to increase their marketing budgets again.

Jeff Duitch (RTV'98)

I've completed my 11th year as the medical filing clerk for Ruan Neurology Clinic at Mercy downtown. I do some Torah and Judaic text learning every day and I still produce event video for people at my synagogue. I just bought an HP computer system. The system includes a Firewire port, perfect for my Canon HDV camcorder. I now can post-produce 100% digital.

Kelly Edwards Barash (BNews'01)

I married and had a baby. Aaron will turn 4 months old on Christmas. Ben, and I married in a small ceremony at the Chicago Cultural Center. We couldn't be happier with Aaron and our adorable two and a half year old shiba inu, Akina.



Barrett Tryon (BNews) moved to Colorado in March.



I'm the digital content director for KRDO-TV (the ABC affiliate) in Colorado Springs. Fancy title for running the website and social media for the station. I'm also the web/technology reporter. Adjusting to life and the altitude. Also, the proud papa of a 7-pound chihuahua named Bentley.

Shane Luitjens (BNews'96) wrote during February to say he edits in-flight magazines for Airtrain, Midwest and VivaAerobus (Mexico). He works in New York City.

Jennifer Maniscalco (BNews'95) wrote during May that she'd won a Bronze Telly for an online video produced for healthcare workers. She and husband **Scott Lindgren (BNews and RTV'95)** with 2-year-old Sofia.

Jaime Thies (BNews'10) produces weekend newscasts for WOI-TV and she edits on Thursdays and Fridays. "They offered me the job on the same day as the interview."

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Jason Hays (BNews'07)

2010's been a busy year for me. I completed Officer Basic Course at Ft. Benning, GA, with the Army in March and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. I am deployed to Afghanistan (COP Zormat, Paktya Province) as the 1st Platoon Leader for Delta Company, 1-168 Infantry.



I'm still an officer with the DMPD and, although things are great here, I miss my civilian job and my wife and babies something terrible.

Dana Hill (BNews'96)

I'm in my second year teaching communication and legal reasoning - a writing class for first-year law students - at Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago. After 9 years of practicing in a large Chicago law firm, I'm happy to be teaching and mentoring students, which is a better fit for my personality and work style. It has also allowed me to do more community service, including serving on boards for a Chicago hospital and a legal aid hotline, and as a volunteer with Best Buddies. In other news, I joined Maggie Blehert on a cruise over the summer which was a nice way to reconnect.

Amy Schmelzer (RTV'96)

I had a pretty successful year with two big accomplishments. First, I finished my Master's degree in May, graduating from Drake again. Then I took an Upper Midwest Regional Emmy award for Best Director - Newscast. I'm senior director at KCCI in Des Moines, directing the 6 & 10 p.m. newscasts.

Twenty-six low-power stations in Iowa – including KDRA – are licensed on 94.1.

Justin Cosner (BNews'09)

11/10, I have been working as a Youth Advocate at Synergy House, a teen crisis shelter in Kansas City, for just over a year now. I enjoy the job as it is always interesting and challenging. I have recently been looking into going back to school in the KC area for a masters.

Alexandra (Sweet) Bayer (BNews'95)

Not much new has gone on with me since I got married in October 2009. I am going on five years working in the legal department of Elan Pharmaceuticals, a biotech company in San Francisco, CA. I work with the patenting of our drugs in the area of Alzheimer's disease, Multiple Sclerosis and Chron's disease.



I also work as a contract attorney on a freelance basis. My husband, Al, and I live in Belmont, CA, which is about 25 minutes from San Francisco and we hope to buy a house here in the next year. (w/photo)

Adrienne (Traxinger) Michele (RTV'96)

A couple big adventures this year, including a move to Washington, DC. While I work at the Pentagon (which sounds more important than it is), I am just a bureaucrat. I work for NORAD and USNORTHCOM... I could provide details about our mission but I know all anyone cares about is when we will start tracking Santa! Check Facebook -- "NORAD Tracks Santa." The other big adventure was taking several of my in-laws on RAGBRAI, dressed up like Top Gun characters (I'm in the middle next to the Air Boss, aka Mother-In-Law).



Mark Stevens (BNews'10) works in Rockford, Illinois, as a one-man band reporter/photographer at WTVO/WQRF. He is enjoying the position, although on days when he has to complete five vo/sots, he'd rather be back with Newsradio 1040 WHO. His best story so far: interviewing the youngest Naval Aviator of World War II. He had some incredible stories. Mark reports he's rekindled a passion for reading because it's cheap, and he's able to sail his little boat on much better lakes than Des Moines offered. He still doesn't know what he'd rather do, TV or radio, but Mark knows he really enjoys being a full time journalist.

Tony Tandeski (BNews'08)

I'm working at WBAY-TV in Green Bay, WI. I produce the 10 p.m. newscast Monday through Friday. I began looking for other jobs last spring when my contract at KRCC-TV in Redding, CA, was ending. I got a few offers, but decided on WBAY. I started June 14th. It's another 2-year contract, but it's really great here so it's going by quickly. Obviously, I'm a big Packers fan now – I don't really have a choice. I'm excited to be back in the Midwest and the job is great.



Photo following 3/24 visit with the J173 class.

Debbie (Bernstein) LaCroix (BNews'97)

lives in South Dakota with her family. She has a picture book coming out by Kane Miller press in Fall of 2011 called "It's Almost Time." When not writing, she sells Usborne Books and More where she is top in personal and team sales, and recently earned a trip to London.

Bob Uhlar (RTV'78) has accepted the position of senior minister at Unity Church of Indianapolis (www.unityofindy.com). He'll start Feb. 1. Bob is resigning his college position at Fort Leavenworth, KS, coaching military officers how to interview with the media (www.cgsc.edu).

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Kristen (Foster) Fink (BNews'06)

2010 was kind of a big year for the Finks... I finished my first year of teaching at Saydel High School in May, then we packed our lives into boxes and moved from Des Moines to Tegucigalpa, Honduras. I am teaching 6th, 7th and 8th grade history and 12th grade communications (we're studying mass media next quarter!) at the Discovery School, and my husband Chris continues to telecommute for Principal Financial.



So far we are really loving Honduras; the weather is gorgeous and the people are incredibly friendly. We are cataloging our adventure on our blog (www.teguciwhat.com) if you're interested in what we're up to.

Tony Tracy (BNews'10) has accepted a production assistant position at KCCI, Des Moines. His overnight responsibilities include camera operation and printing scripts.

Audrey (Reed) Granger (BNews'96)



Since April 2009, principal in charge of public relations and marketing for Stratosphere Creative, Dallas.

Paul Taylor (BNews'84) wrote last holiday season that he was working as a nursing assistant at the VA Hospital in Martinez, CA.

Gary Parker (RTV'89)

Producer, Television Games Network.

Apryl Richard (BNews'96) celebrated her 40th birthday during January with a surprise party orchestrated by her sister, Lysette Baily (CBPA'80). Richard is working toward a master's degree in marketing from Loyola, Chicago.

Adam Ghassemi (BNews'04)

It's been another great year at KATU. We have achieved, and are maintaining, ratings dominance in nearly every show. This year I accepted two awards from the Oregon Associated Press - 1st Place for Best News Writing and 2nd Place for Best Hard Feature Story. I picked this photo because it shows me freezing on Mt. Hood! Crystal and I are doing great in Portland. (Adam sits on SJMC's National Advisory Committee.)



Mary Bock (BNews'86)

I actually went through the graduation ceremony at Penn in May (but the defense had been in October 2009 so it's really not news.) I will be spending the next year turning my Ph.D. dissertation into a book but really, it's been quiet, **Paul (Taylor, BNews'84)** and I had dinner in San Francisco in November during the NCA convention. He's supposed to send you the photographic proof. (Bock's 500-page dissertation focuses on one-person reporting.)

Sheldon Ripson (BNews'83) is news director for WRTV, Indianapolis. Ripson's newest hobby is preparing to train a new general manager. Ripson's station has expanded its 5 p.m. newscast by 30 minutes. **Jodie Moser (BNews'06)** is managing the extra time and "...has become one of our key producers. Another Drake success story," writes Ripson.

Kevin Haas (BNews'08) wrote in January that he was finishing an internship with the Chicago Bears media team. He was then hired for a media position with the Chicago Blackhawks. "Networking is what really saved me" after five months of job searching.

David Sargent (BNews'83)

Vice president of the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau.

Scott Gojkovich (RTV'97) is program director for Star 102 in Des Moines. He's offered great assistance in sorting out some of E-Media's automation issues during the past year. Wife **Heidi (Biedermann) (BNews'98)** is a loyal visitor to the capstone class and serves as KCCI's executive producer.



Andrea (Froehlich) McMaster (BNews'98)

will continue to provide media consultation for The Nebraska Medical Center despite a move back to her hometown before Christmas. This year, Andrea was honored with awards for her writing and press materials from PRSA of Nebraska and the Omaha Press Club. Andrea and her family look forward to returning to Minneapolis to be closer to grandparents as they are expecting their third daughter at the end of January.



Our oldest girls at ages 5 and 20 months.

Kyle Lobner (RTV'05) recently started his third year as managing editor of Brew Crew Ball (brewcrewball.com). He writes about the Milwaukee Brewers every weekday, in-season and out. 2010's highlight for Brew Crew Ball came in June, when Kyle became the first new media writer credentialed in the Miller Park press box. Kyle and his wife, Laura, live in Appleton with their miniature dachshund (Gorman), and Kyle passes his spare time by inventing recipes for his food blog: macandcheesemaestro.blogspot.com.

Jennifer Marnowski (BNews'89)

wrote about a year ago that she'd left CNN-Atlanta, moved with her family to Denver and was producing the 4 p.m. newscast for KMGH.

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Sam Alvelo (RTV'03)

This past year has been exciting professionally and personally. I've been living and working in Los Angeles for 5 1/2 years. I've been working as a set production assistant on films, TV shows, and commercials. In July 2009 I acquired enough days to become eligible to join the Directors Guild of America. I have been an Assistant Director mainly on Commercials this year, including McDonalds, Target, Direct TV, Harley Davidson and Taco Bell. This year I worked on the films Knight and Day, Larry Crowne, Horrible Bosses, and Battleship. While working on Battleship I shot on location for a month in Oahu. You can always see what I'm up to on IMDB. My professional high light for 2010 would be working on Larry Crowne, whose writer, producer, director and star is Tom Hanks. Also I was the 1st Assistant Director on a Music Video with Nas and Damien Marley "As We Enter", which was a great experience as well because it was the first time I was a First AD on set. I was finally able to take some time off for myself and visited Puerto Rico during July. A month can be a little excessive but I just needed it. I spent most of the time with my grandmother whom I hadn't seen since graduation. It was the vacation of a lifetime.



Photo of me on the set of Larry Crowne during our last day of shooting. I almost got added to a scene with Tom.

Chris Rooney (BNews'04) was planning to begin work on his MBA in the Twin Cities during 2010. He works for Medtronic, Inc. Rooney and Robin Tyler (Marketing'03) married last year.



Michelle Lustig (BNews'08)

2010 has proved to be yet another great year for me. I left the world of broadcasting after serving time (as I like to call it) in Sioux City, Iowa where I was a general assignment reporter for the ABC affiliate. After returning to Chicago I took on a position with the Wit Hotel in their sales department.



Combining my love for communication as well as entertaining I've found that the hospitality industry is a fitting environment for me. In addition to beginning a new career path in 2010 I managed to complete my fourth marathon, become an aunt, PLUNGE down the side of a 28-story building, visit friends and family all over the country as well as becoming an active member of the Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago, RHAMC.

Dave Melone (RTV'67) visited campus during September to witness changes in our Meredith Hall physical plant and catch up on stories. Until recently Melone was a customer support engineer for Quantel in Chicago.

Glen Biermann (RTV'89) is a frequent contributor to the JMC100 Field Photo class. His usual topic is news lighting. Biermann is a long-time photojournalist for KCCI, Des Moines.

Carl Sundermann (RTV'05) has joined the West Des Moines School District as a personal computer technologist at Valley High School. "It gets back to my techie roots. Fixing computers, printers, projectors... basically anything that plugs into the wall." Sundermann also says he may be able to help the district expand its multimedia instruction.

VA (Hayman) Barber (BNews'99) works for Johnson & Wales University in Denver as director of experiential education and career services.

Erin (Moody) Kiernan (BNews'96)

Things at work have been great - we're seeing fantastic growth in the 5, 6 and 10 o'clock newscasts and I'm blessed to be able to keep doing a lot of fun and rewarding reporting. I won two Regional Edward R. Murrow Awards - one for Continuing Coverage, the other for Video News Series. The continuing coverage story focused on a family's fight for dental insurance - one that had been going on for a decade. It also won a first place Eric Sevareid Award in the Hard Feature Category. Virtually every photojournalist on the Channel 13 staff helped with the series "13 Cares". In it we highlight the positive things groups and individuals are doing in Central Iowa. It's a simple concept, but the response from viewers has been great - I think they just like seeing some good news once in awhile! The series was also nominated for an Emmy. On the flip side, things in my personal life have been really scary!



My husband and I spent the first several months of the year trying to figure out what was going on with his health. After trips to various doctors for various tests, Michael was diagnosed with a parotid tumor. In "non-doctor" speak, that means he had a tumor growing in his saliva gland. He had surgery over the summer in Iowa City and was lucky to have been treated by one of the best head and neck oncology surgeons in the country. Michael is cancer-free and on the mend and we are praying for a really boring 2011, at least on the health front! (Photo from Erin's visit with the Broadcast News capstone class during February.)

Chuck Reed (RTV'85) works as PR manager for the American Cancer Society, Midwest group. He keeps a hand in sports production, recently reporting sideline observations for the Iowa High School Sports Network's televised football finals from Cedar Falls. (In 4-A overtime, Dowling Catholic, 38, City High of Iowa City, 31).

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Abbie Hamilton (RTV'09)

I am working full time in the production department ONE at Optimus in Chicago. We're becoming better known and trusted in the community. ONE at Optimus is only a couple years old, so the six of us in the department get to tackle a wide array of responsibilities. I mostly wrangle data and manage our video files but lately have stepped into the producer role a bit, coordinating small non-profit jobs that come our way. **Eric (RTV'08)** and I are doing great as well.



We are in the same apartment on the north side of the city that we moved into after I graduated from Drake, and we will probably stay there for now, as Eric just started law school this year. We got a little traveling in this year, including a mini vacation we took to LA this past fall, where we saw our good friend **Sarah Smith (RTV'09)**.

Tricia ("TP") (Polhert) Hoffman (BNews'98)

sells real estate in the Dallas area for Team Nelson. A former Drake softball scholarship player, T-P, husband David and their two children hosted Drake's softball players and some parents during a February stop in nearby Denton, Texas. Thanks for the air-checks, T-P!

Lee Konfrst (RTV'96)

Started a new job/career with Nationwide Insurance as a Senior Arbitration Specialist. It's been interesting to utilize all I've learned in media, policy, and law in this new position. Finished up a fantastic year with Leadership Iowa where I learned even more about our great state and developed some great friendships. Jennifer is still excelling at IPTV and we celebrated her honor as one of the Business Record's Forty Under 40 this year. Middle School looms next year for Ellie (10) and James (8) still entertains anyone in earshot.

Did we miss you this year? Send professional and personal updates to john.lytle@drake.edu.

Laurel (Bower) Burgmaier (BNews'95)

Our daughter Halle turned a year on August 8.



She is a very bright, happy baby girl! I'm still at Iowa Public Television and loving it! I'm one of five producers for the weekly Market to Market program. One highlight was producing a two-part story about Farm Aid and interviewing founder Willie Nelson this past fall.



The annual concert just celebrated its 25th anniversary. I'm currently working on a development grant from Humanities Iowa to produce a documentary about this difficult time in agriculture. I will apply for production grants, with the hope of airing this program on PBS. (Laurel occasionally visits JMC 100 to discuss her work.)

Dan Bolsem (BNews'97) brought several stories to the J100 class during October for "Show-and-Tell."



Bolsem, a 10-year photojournalist for KCCI, Des Moines, was recognized with other staff members with a Regional Emmy for their blizzard reporting last season.

Tami Wienczek (BNews'84) wears several marketing area hats for Musco Lighting in Oskaloosa. She's also teaching and developing curriculum for William Penn University as their director of the Digital Communications program.



Wienczek visited the J100 class during February to observe and also share highlights of her careers in television news and politics. She also sits on the SJMC National Advisory Committee.

David Lubbers (BNews'86) sits on SJMC's national advisory group and contributes to classes through occasional visits and sending samples of his work as a full-time contractor for ESPN.



Lubbers says that when he travels to Connecticut to help edit his investigations for "Outside the Lines" he also prepares cut-down radio versions. David lives in Des Moines.

John Walters (RTV'84) and **Dave Zawilinski (RTV'05)** regularly contribute to J100 Field Photography as two-thirds of the WOI-TV Sports Department. Their third member, **Joey Donia (BNews'07)** joined the station during 2010.

Dr. Grant Tarbox (BNews'91) works for Aetna Insurance in Dallas as their southwest region medical director.

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Geoff Greenwood (BNews'88)

After more than 20 years as a reporter at KCCI, I took a job as communications director for the Iowa Attorney General's office. Since much of my reporting career has focused on law enforcement and courts, it seemed like a good fit. And it's worked out really well. My position is appointed, so I must admit I was sweating it out during the election. But Attorney General Tom Miller made it through just fine and so, too, did I. It's been a good career change and new set of challenges. It's also been interesting interacting with my former news colleagues in a completely different capacity. And it's been a challenge dealing with national news media and business media. Someone will call on almost a daily basis to ask about the nationwide mortgage foreclosure investigation that my boss is running. On the personal side, our kids are growing fast. My daughter, Mollie, is almost 15 and is a freshman. She made the varsity swim team and, I regret to inform you, she's starting to drive. Son John is 11 and is in 6th grade. He is a sports fanatic. He's also busy with Boy Scouts, and as a Scout leader I get to spend time doing some fun things with him. My wife, Carrie, still works part-time as a pharmacist and cracks the homework whip full-time when the kids get home. That's the news, weather and sports from this former news guy. (Geoff was the interview source for a National Public Radio report Nov. 17 about Iowa's attorney general testifying in Washington, D.C.)

Melissa (Gundlah) Hintz (BNews'86)

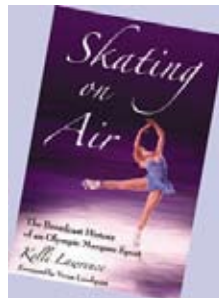
I have been at Strategic America for over 11 years, doing the media thing. We've been able to keep all our personnel and have even added a few new clients this year. After 25 years, I decided to put my political science minor to good use, as a member of the Board of Education for the Newton School District. I am enjoying the challenge. Some of this may have stemmed from my involvement in the (SJMC) National Advisory Committee. Maybe someday when I tire of the corporate world, I'll go into academia. I probably should get my master's first. I hear Drake has a good program. Our 6th grade daughter and a 2nd grade son keep us busy. Our new project is restoring my dad's 1972 Mustang Convertible. It's in pretty good shape despite 5 years in his barn in Western PA. Maybe some day we will drive it in the Drake Relays parade with the Meredith basement dwellers on board.



Rob Sobkoviak (RTV'90)

I continue to work at Discover Financial Services at the corporate headquarters in Riverwoods, Illinois as an enterprise architect in the Business Technology group where I've been nearly 10 years. In November, I was certified TOGAF 9 Foundation level. TOGAF is The Open Group Architecture Framework and is the industry standard certification for Enterprise Architects. I've taken up bicycling, and I look forward to getting back out on the road in the spring.

Kelli Lawrence's (RTV'89) biggest news stems around the release of her first book, *Skating on Air: The Broadcast History of an Olympic Marquee Sport* features contributions from over 30 sources, on-air personalities to director/producers to TV executives among them (including a foreword from CBS's Verne Lundquist). The book is scheduled for release by McFarland Publishing in the spring of 2011. Kelli continues working as a freelance writer-producer as she's done for nearly a decade. Her main gig is with Chicago publisher B G + H, where she contributes regularly to B2B publications such as ADVANTAGE and American Builders Quarterly. In the past year she's also produced corporate video for Sam's Club and the United Way. Kelli lives in Indianapolis, where she and husband raise their two kids, ages 9 and 7.



Amber Lee Schindeldecker (BNews'03)

I moved to Fort Myers from the midwest at the end of May. I work at WINK-TV and produce our hour long 10 p.m. newscast. It was an easy transition and I am loving the warm weather.



Amber and Graham

(I'm sure I will miss the snow come Christmas Day.) Because I'm just 10 minutes from the beach, I tend to get a lot of visitors. Among them, Drake best friends **Treyva Estler (RTV'02)** and **Kari Fass RTV'02**. They visited at the end of October for our annual "Sisterhood Reunion."

I went home to Minnesota for Thanksgiving to welcome my new nephew to the world. Graham has already stolen my heart! By the way, we always have tons of openings, if any of your grads are looking!

Ellie Bastian (RTV'10)

During college I gradually decided that I'd like to document environmental issues, so an internship at any environmental organization would be a good start. Finally I received an interview at the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, about half an hour east of Des Moines. The interviewer started wrapping up the conversation with, "Well, I guess that's it..." when I sprang to action. "Actually, I'd like to ask you a few questions," I said, and rattled off a laundry list of problems with their website. "You know, it would be a lot more attractive with solid video stories and podcasts. I'd love to do those." I started work the day after graduation. With a source of income guaranteed for three months (which turned into seven months), I nearly drained my savings account to buy a camcorder and related gear. A few months later I was hunkered down next to a huge pile of bison dung, shooting a story about bison researchers on the refuge.



In October I joined the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Prairie Learning Center, the non-profit organization which works with the refuge, as their Media Specialist. My first job: redesign that website, add more videos. The internship triggered ideas about potential documentaries, so I applied for a Fulbright Scholarship. This would take me to Russia to shoot a documentary about the effects of globalization on rural Russia's agricultural sector. But even if I don't receive the Fulbright, I'll be working on a documentary through this spring and summer. Last August I met a naturalist who wants to document his motorcycle ride from Oklahoma to North Dakota, hitting remnants of all the major prairie types along the way.

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Anamarie Rebori (BNews'09)

2010 has been an eventful year! At the beginning of last year, I was fortunate to land a job working as the communications assistant for Senator Claire McCaskill of Missouri.



Being a Missourian myself and a political news junkie, I couldn't have asked for a better first job. It was well worth the risk of moving to D.C., despite not having a permanent job in place at the time! During my time working in Congress, I've had the opportunity to work with several local and national journalists who are covering topics my boss is also working on in the Senate. Having interned for news organizations while at Drake, I've been able to offer both a journalistic and public relations viewpoint to each story or situation we've come across. Additionally, my love for social media has grown exponentially as I've worked closely in maintaining our YouTube, Facebook and Twitter accounts. I'm constantly trying to learn as much about the digital world as possible. Overall, it's been one amazing year. I couldn't have picked a better time to be at the forefront of politics.

Iowa Public Radio's **Rick Fredrickson** visits the Radio News class nearly every fall. Following a broadcasting career with the Armed Forces, KRNT AM-TV (later KCCI) and CBS News, Fredrickson concentrates these days on long-form reporting for an expanding network that includes stations in Ames, Iowa City and Cedar Falls. He resides in Urbandale.



Matt Bolger (RTV'03)

The biggest news is my wife accepted a job at the University of Iowa, so we will be moving back to Iowa in the summer. Other than that, I'm in my second year as radio-television teacher at Bishop DuBourg High School in St. Louis. Some of my students won a statewide contest last year for a video entitled, "How to Get a Girl." I'm also still coaching girls basketball. We got 2nd in districts last year and are off to a decent start this year. Averie is now 2 and quite independent. I've been teaching her some Iowa Hawkeye cheers, so she's ready to make the move.



Shawn Gannon (RTV'92) visited Meredith Hall during early May.



We spotted **Kuebari Lemea (RTV'10)** in an editing room at Iowa Public Television during a J100 field trip hosted by IPTV Producer David Miller.



Lemea was wrapping up his internship prior to December graduation. At the controls of the AVID editor – **Neal Kyer (RTV'95)**.



Rebekah Maxwell (BNews'10)

If my years at Drake taught me anything (and I maintain they have), it's the value of versatility. I'm working at Newsradio 1040 in Des Moines as producer of the live drive-time talk show. I'm also a weekend reporter/anchor, and like most of our intrepid staff, on the job at any hour (that the Iowa Hawkeyes don't take

on-air precedence, naturally). After searching for typical post-graduate jobs to pay the student loans, I discovered how lucky I am. Every day is its own challenge and opportunity; every day I look forward to the job that isn't easy but never feels like work. The times are tough, but broadcasters are tougher, and I'm learning the value of doing what you love (and paying the bills later). I'm occasionally on stage with my sketch comedy group, Banana Punch (available for gigs, birthdays, and bar mitzvahs), and with my guitar and song-writing efforts.



Maxwell surrounded by her student news awards

Jessica (Roberts) Lown (BNews'04)

Jessica works at the Iowa Department of Public safety as one of two Public Information Officers. She's responsible for the daily public relations efforts of the state's largest law enforcement agency. Over the last year Jessica has worked closely with agents and troopers to share information with the public on a variety of cases, like the State Film Tax Credit investigation, several high profile officer involved shootings and two AMBER Alerts. She also provides video production and photography services for the Department and is devising a social media marketing plan for DPS.



One thing she likes about her job, is the fact that she works with talented Drake grads: journalists who contact her for information, public relations professionals, and attorneys prosecuting various cases! Jessica and her husband, Joel (Ad'02), live in Des Moines with their cat, Duke. They enjoy cooking and trying out the many great restaurants in the metro. (Jess serves on the SJMC National Advisory Committee.)

E-Media Holiday Newsletter 2010

Andrea (Johnson) Gamache (BNews'05)



I returned to St. Louis after graduation and worked for KMOV Channel 4 for a couple of years. For three years now I've been working for a TPA firm, administering 401(k) Plans for companies. It's completely different than the journalism world, but I love it! I got married September 26, 2009, to Jeff Gamache. We just got a dog in August, her name is Auggie. Other than that, we are just enjoying life. I have attached a photo of the three of us taken at this year's Notre Dame Vs. Pittsburgh game.

Danielle Sauka (BNews'09)

I'm producing the 5 pm & 10 pm news at WHBF (CBS) in the Quad Cities. Our station is transitioning to HD right now, which is a very interesting process! I'm looking forward to the new equipment and the new look. Our station was recently declared "The Underdog Worth Watching" by a local bi-weekly newspaper, which I'm pretty proud of. I've enjoyed my producing experience so far and I'm hoping to take what I've learned back to Des Moines when my contract is up in June.

Molly Nelson (RTV, BNews'03)

In late 2009, my husband Kole Petersen and I welcomed our son, Joseph, to the world. I still work at KCCI TV, Des Moines. I'm a reporter for the morning show, so the alarm clock goes off at 3:15 a.m. I enjoy the work, and the hours allow me to spend afternoons with my son.



Molly and a baby alpaca at the State Fair.

Brad Ehrlich (BNews'03) reports for Clear Channel's WHO-AM, Des Moines.

Lelia Tran (BNews'97)

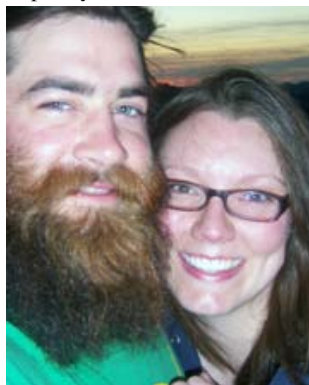
Producer, Screaming Flea Productions, Seattle. I've been swamped with work and haven't had a chance to e-mail you back for the Holiday newsletter, but I wanted to let you know about a show special that is premiering (Dec. 6) on the Discovery Health Channel! It's called "Worst Thing That Ever Happened to Me." This show is all mine – I cast, field produced, managed all the recreations, managed the editing – you name it. Working on a show with recreations was a first for me and I learned a lot! Anyway, I'm super proud of this show and hope that you (had) a chance to watch it. www.screamingflea.net

Ryan DeRoos (RTV'03)

I live in San Antonio, working as a technician for the San Pedro Playhouse. One highlight has been receiving an ATAC (Alamo Theatre Arts Council) Globe Award for set design for the US premier of the play "Morning Dove" by Emil Sher, and receiving 2nd place for costume design for our float in the San Antonio Holiday river parade. I've also been working on a Master's Certificate for Art Gallery and Museum studies, which led me to intern with Artpace this past fall, a local art gallery that exhibits local and international artists. To fill the rest of my time I've kept busy taking care of two dogs and one fiance, and I'm slowly planning a wedding.

Treyva Estler (RTV'02)

This past year was full of new beginnings! I became engaged to my longtime boyfriend/best friend, Matt Norton. We look forward to a wedding in 2011! I also transitioned from editing National Geographic Channel's "The Dog Whisperer" to editing for 3-Ball Productions (the creator of "The Biggest Loser"). With 3-Ball, I edited a six-part special called "What's Eating You" for E! Entertainment. Currently, also with 3-Ball, I'm editing a new show for MTV called "I Used to be Fat" which premieres Dec 29, 2010. Matt and I live in "The Valley" of LA (going on five years!) with our three dogs. Together, we run a small landscape/custom carpentry business.



Larry Burkum (RTV'80)

I'm still a producer for KSPR, the ABC affiliate in Springfield, MO. We're "managed" by the NBC affiliate station and moved into a new addition to its building just over a year ago. KSPR was the first station in the market to broadcast entirely in HD. I produced that first newscast on a new set. Coincidentally, two years earlier I produced the first newscast with our new newsroom set and new anchor team. I produce the weeknight 10 p.m. newscasts, but have done stints producing the 6 p.m. and the 5-7 a.m. cast. Best part of early morning is the format allows constant updating with breaking news. Worst part is it's from 5 to 7 in the morning! At my age, the body clock simply doesn't adjust that easily! We use an automated production process with robotic cameras and just the director running a computer-linked video switcher, audio board and character generator. That puts just two people in a control room that used to have 5. In some instances, we don't even use a floor director. It's great when everything works. One morning we lost 2 of our 3 cameras and a link to the audio board. No floor director, so the producer had to operate the one camera while the director slid across the control room to run the audio board and the automated system. The producer and director communicated via cell phone because the intercom went down. We now have a "backpack" live unit that allows us to transmit audio and video from anywhere we can get a cell phone signal. It's better than a sat truck and looks almost as clean. And it literally fits in a backpack. Just attach the high def camera and mic. (Burkum advises future graduates to be well versed in multimedia production.)

Kristi (Van Ekeren) Shepard (BNews'88)

is completing her 11th campaign with United Way of Dane County in Madison, WI, as director of Leadership Giving. It's been a tough year as a Hawkeye fan among the Badgers, but I continue to wave the Iowa flag. A number of associates have children applying to Drake (none so far in Journalism) which is exciting. My husband, Robin (an Iowa Stater who is a Drake wannabe), is finishing up his third beer book, this one on Minnesota breweries, so I've been assisting with research. Porter, our 15-year-old pot-bellied pig, is dealing with all of the issues related to aging but is holding her own and usually receives more communications than do we. We've had a fun year with lots of Brewers baseball and are counting down the days to Spring training.

Pat Parris (BNews'87)

Seen often before and after major sporting events on Fox Sports Midwest. Parris works in St. Louis.

E-Media Holiday Newsletter 2010

Michelle (Burdeen) Jackson (RTV'90) was the driving force behind this spring's 20 year Radio/TV reunion held in conjunction with the all university cluster '89, '90 and '91 reunion during Relays Weekend. She and **Rob Sobkoviak (RTV'90)** set up a tour of Meredith followed by a viewing of the 1990 RTV J114 class project. It was interesting to see the changes as the program has moved from analog formats to digital. What was once the SJMC darkroom is a Final Cut Pro lab. Other highlights of the tour included the TV studio and the KDRK (now KDRA-LP) studio.



Meredith visitors included:

Deanne Rymarowicz (BNews'90), Kyle Martin (RTV'90), Shelley (Brown) Rouse (RTV'90), Jill (Lingwall) Farmer RTV, BNews'91), Amy (Connell) Hilmes (RTV'90), Joann Ball (BSM'90), Paul Ellis (RTV'89), Koren (Swanda) Scott (RTV'90), Kelly Shoff (BNews'90) and Dana (Epps) Clark (BNews'90). Others sent greetings by e-mail or Facebook. A later gathering at Wellman's Pub included **Karen Fuller (RTV'89)** and **Anthony Pisut RTV'90).**



Finally, a number of classmates attended the cluster reunion at the Science Center of Iowa. We had a great group of folks who worked so well together. There is a certain bond you have once you've graduated from "The Basement."

Matt Becker (BNews'02)

This year has been similar to many previous ones – working at STATS and living in Chicago. All in all, there were two major highlights in 2010 – beating **Sean Hoffman's**

(RTV'02) time by 60 minutes in a half-marathon and the birth of my son. Hoffman ran his half-marathon in Phoenix and I ran mine in Chicago. When I called to give him my time of 90 minutes he was nearly speechless – an accomplishment in itself. Thomas Andrew was born on Oct. 22, so we share a birthday. The little guy also shares a birthday with his cousin, as my sister gave birth to Lucas 10 hours after



Thomas entered the world. Just as thrilling is trying to raise a child in a positive environment despite the certainty he'll never see the Cubs win a World Series. BTW, Sean is a branch manager at Premium Financing Specialists in Phoenix. He has two kids and his fantasy football team barely squeaked into the playoffs.

Corinne (Lemmage) Lowe (RTV'08)

married Rev. Joshua Lowe of Greenfield, MO, on May 30 at Trinity Lutheran, Des Moines. They reside in Blue Hill, NE, where Josh pastors Trinity Lutheran, Blue Hill. Corinne works for the Blue Hill Leader, writing articles, managing the office and printing both the Blue Hill Leader and the Doniphan Herald weekly. The only part of the process that is digital is the layout design. The rest is done through darkroom developing, burning plates and running pages on an analog press...a big jump for digital junkie, but it's a great job!



Cody Gough (RTV'07)

I started working at the Kenmore Live Studio in downtown Chicago when it opened in March. We broadcast live cooking demos and other shows to Facebook, where Kenmore's fan page has accumulated over 161,000 fans since the studio's launch. I've done everything from writing and copy editing to running the audio board and floor directing our shows, but

my main job is hosting. You can find me on YouTube now (very exciting!) and I'll also be with Kenmore at CES in Las Vegas in January, so stop by and say hi. This year, I also officially became an actor, having just wrapped my first paid acting gig in a corporate training video for the GAP. I've also been cast in a principal role in the pilot episode of a new TV series "Engaged" which should start shooting soon. My goal is to move to L.A. next August, so next year's update could be interesting!

Dorothy (Michalek) Gray

(BNews'03)

Finally made it back to sweet home Chicago! Since Feb. 1, I've been the 8am Producer for "Good Day Chicago" on WFLD/Fox Chicago. It's tough working an overnight shift, but I keep reminding myself how hard I worked -- and how much moving around I did to make this happen! My husband and I are living in Munster, Indiana -- which is pretty much a far southeast suburb. I guess the one good thing about working overnight is I avoid rush hour! We've expanded our family to 2 dogs and 2 cats, so those are enough kids to handle for now!

Courtney Skelcher (BNews'10)

Since graduation I have moved back home to Minneapolis. I transferred to the Old Chicago up here and continue to waitress full time. I also nanny four young kids. I take care of Ray and Gracie, who are cousins, one to two days a week. On opposite days of the week I take care of Noella and Tanner. Both jobs keep me busy as I complete the law school application process. I took the LSAT about a month after graduation and have been researching schools and working on applications. I hope to have them all turned in and completed by the end of this month or the first week of the New Year!

Nori (Christiansen)(BNews'03) and Eric Duffee (RTV'03)

Eric practices law at Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter in Columbus, Ohio. Nori tends the 4- and 3-year-olds and does some freelance commercial modeling and voice work.

