

Drake E-Media Holiday Newsleffer 2011

DIGITAL PALACE TRANSFORMED

BY PROF. JOHN LYTLE, NEWSLETTER EDITOR

JMC73 Radio News was the first Electronic Media class to use Meredith Hall Room 2 as the space neared completion from an upgrade begun early in the summer.

The lab provides 18 flat-screen Macs packed with Final Cut Pro and other essentials plus a fully equipped teaching station.



The space began life as SJMC's photo processing lab and darkroom. More recently it accommodated five Final Cut Pro editing stations and classroom area. Radio-Television Producing and Broadcast News advanced students now ingest their field video into those stations repositioned just outside TV Master Control.

Video lab and production spaces share a common server for easy file transfer. The \$70,000 project was largely funded with tech fees included in Drake tuition.

VIDEO SWITCHER INSTALLATION UNDERWAY

A Ross Carbonite digital video switcher will greet returning students for Spring 2012. The project was necessitated when E-Media's previously donated Ampex AVC Cen-

tury 230 switcher "crashed and burned" about four weeks from semester's end. Drake administrators approved a special technology expenditure to cover the \$47,000 cost. Included is a field visit by company representatives to assure that the device is operating correctly.

The switcher offers two mix-effect busses and 16 inputs along with the usual assortment of keyers.

End-term studio projects like *Studio 100* in JMC100 "made-do" with a borrowed New-Tek TriCaster. Check out their product at http://vimeo.com/33298476. Solid!



CONWAY AT DRAKE

WHO Radio talk show host Simon Conway originated his 3-hour talk show from Meredith Hall's Kragie-Newell Interactive Media Lab, Nov. 1.

Microphone signals mixed by Engineer John Sellers were routed to WHO by an ISDN telephone line borrowed from Drake Athletics.

Conway's program was the first he originated from a college campus since moving to WHO early this year.

Politics was the topic of the day. The live program featured discussion with four opinionated Drake students, three of them enrolled in the Law School. Listeners also contributed by telephone.

At least 24 minutes of each hour were filled with traffic, sports and news updates, plus commercials, allowing adequate "stretch time" for students and others who watched the production.



CAVEAT

Most of the alumni updates in this issue remain the words you submitted, with an occasional edit for brevity or an obvious typo.

I may have missed some.

Apologies, in advance.

If anyone would like to take on this project in November 2012, let me know, and I'll gladly pass the editor's crown!

Do keep us posted on professional and personal changes. Today's E-Media students love Real World contacts.

Happy Holidays, All.

CHENEY RECOGNIZED

Former SJMC Dean Michael Cheney has received a prized "Excellence in Online Teaching Award" from the Sloan Consortium.



The group consists of "(i)ndividuals, institutions and organizations committed to quality online education," according to its web site.

A professor of Communication at the University of Illinois Springfield, Cheney teaches multiple online courses and he uses short podcasts to supplement traditional courses. Cheney accepted his award during the group's November convention in Orlando.

RADIO REPORTERS WIN

Four Drake students received five firstplace awards from the Iowa Broadcast News Association at the group's May convention.



Lundgren, McCullough, Not A-J, Sanyour

Ciera Lundgren won Newscast and Political Coverage categories. Stephanie Sanyour won first-place Public Affairs, Kayleigh McCullough took the Depth category and A-J Harrison (unavailable for the photo) was rewarded the student Feature award for his revelation that few fans know the words to Drake's "D Song."

Harrison earned second place for Playby-Play. Winning stories were produced as a requirement for JMC73 Radio News during December 2010.

All photos are saved at 72 dpi. They'll look terrible printed.

E-Media 2011

SJMC RE-ACCREDITED

A 5-member team representing academia and the profession visited campus during February and overwhelmingly recommended the School for continuing accreditation, one of about 110 programs nationally so certified.

Representing broadcast interests during the site visit was retired network correspondent Bob Jamieson.

During his 30 years of TV news Jamieson won five national Emmys, a Peabody and a DuPont. Jamieson worked 20 years for NBC News before joining ABC in 1990. He lives in New York.

MAY GRADS FIND JOBS

SJMC's May 2010 graduates recorded an "accomplishment rate" of almost 96 percent.

University reports also showed more SJMC graduates held internships than Arts & Science and Business students.

A lower percentage of SJMC students remain in Iowa following graduation – about half.

Two-thirds of reporting SJMC graduates found work related to their educational or professional goals.

IPR REPORTER VISITS

Iowa Public Radio's Rick Fredericksen told students during an October visit natural sound makes his reporting viable.

Fredericksen's broadcasting career began during training at the Defense Information School. Following service with the Marines, he joined KRNT radio and later became a co-anchor for KRNT-TV (later KCCI).

He moved to Hawaiian television news in 1982, then joined the CBS Bureau in Thailand.

Rick joined the WOI Radio Group when CBS closed their Thailand Bureau. He specializes on feature reporting.



KDRA-LP PROSPERS BY SAMI RICHMOND, PD

Our team at 94.1 The Dog has been hard at work throughout the semester. Managing over 35 specialty shows, a significant increase since last year, we have seen our DJs through many phases so far.

Producers have gained radio knowledge, put on entertaining shows, jammed out to new music, and overall had a great time being a part of Drake Broadcasting System.

When DJs broadcast from the Meredith studio, we hear alternative, country, pop, indie, rock and everything in between.

We produce several sports talk shows for our audience to enjoy, as well.



When DJs are absent, new, top-40, variety music plays from iMediaTouch.

The rotation of pre-programmed music that we play is determined by our computer program, Selector. The randomization, based on this program, has been greatly improved this school year. We are hearing new music on 94.1 on a consistent basis.

We also have a dedicated promotions team this year. Our promotions team allows organizations on campus, as well as in the Des Moines community, to promote events, fund-raisers, and things of the like.

Overall, we have made much progress this semester on the radio side of DBS, and we are continuing to look up from here.

If any alumni have advice for how to improve the station or give us feedback, please mail us at 941thedog@drake.edu. We are always open to new ideas.

DRAKE DIGITAL NEWS

DrakeDigitalNews.com continues to provide a potential audience for text, photos, audio and video supplied by Electronic Media reporting classes. B News senior Kayleigh McCullough posted dozens of stories during fall semester.

STUDIO 100

A 30-minute news magazine consisting of stories produced during Fall Semester by sophomores and juniors hit the cable and Web Dec. 7.

Class members selected their best stories from among eight produced during the semester. Yes, Michelle Bachmann's Drake appearance made the newscast.



Class members handled all the responsibilities except technical directing with the largely unfamiliar TriCaster and operating one studio camera.

FALES VISITS JMC100

WHO-TV feature reporter and KXNO sports talk co-host Andy Fales screened several of his favorite reporting samples with the JMC100 Television Field Photography class, Oct. 24.

The 1993 Drake English graduate returned to Channel 13 in 2008 following six months with KMBC (TV), Kansas City. He also resumed his work co-hosting WHO-TV's popular Sunday night "*Sound-Off*" program.



Fales' class presentation concentrated on how video, sound and words complement one another in the effective feature story.

He urged students to build their stories, a layer at a time, and include a surprise or two along the way.

JMC100 remains a core requirement for Radio-Television Producing and Broadcast News students.

FM SPORTS GAINS MOMENTUM DURING 2011 By A. J. HARRISON, SPORTS DIRECTOR

94 1 Sports has seen a few changes this year, partly because we now have our own logo and Facebook page! Check us out on facebook.com/941sports.

This year has been highlighted by our coverage of the Drake football team, which won a share of the Pioneer Football League earlier this year. The Bulldogs went a perfect 6 and 0 in their home games that aired on 94 1 The Dog.

Both the men's and women's basketball squads lost only one starter from last year's seasons and face a bright future.

One of the early highlights of this season was the Drake men's squad defeating Iowa State for the first time since 2009.

We also continued our coverage of the Drake softball team, which helps keep our announcers on their toes before Drake Relays rolls around in the spring. In terms of video efforts, we have started filming more recaps after Drake basketball contests and look to produce a Drake basketball show in the spring.

ALTERNATE INSPECTION OK By Jeff Nichols, Chief Operator

Through the Iowa Broadcasters Association, an alternative inspection program by an FCC educated engineer/lawyer has been offered every 3 years.



We took part in the program this year for a nominal fee. John Lytle and I both learned valuable information about what we are, and are not, supposed to be doing for compliance for the radio station.

In short, now that we are certified, unless someone complains, we will be off the radar of the FCC.

I have a couple of minor forms to file with the FCC (and even that is a formality).

Special thanks to John for doing all the FCC filing, research and paperwork for KDRA. The inspector advised we post the certificate in our public area. I'll leave where that should be to someone else. Cheers!



Harrison and Blake Miller call a Drake game.

Finally, we have also continued our coverage of the Roosevelt Roughrider football team this year as many of our younger commentators had the experience to call their first games on 94 1.

Looking ahead to the spring semester we will cover the Drake men's basketball matchup against UNI in January.

For the first time since 2009 we plan on calling both the men's and women's basketball at the Missouri Valley Conference tournaments in March.

BORLAND SHARES STORIES



WHO-TV's chief photographer Mike Borland, visits JMC100 nearly every semester to critique student stories and share samples of his own work.

He knows the class well, having teamtaught it the semester Lytle took sabbatical in 1998.

Aren't old pictures fun? That's Mike with a president in the White House.

DRAKELINE.COM ARCHIVED Junior B News major Kaitlin Berry has invested much of her fall semester's Work Study hours updating DrakeLINE's archives. We converted the site to WordPress from Dreamweaver when a Drake-owned server expired. Take a look.

Alumni

Paige Hulsey (BNews'11)

Forfeiting to my case of wanderlust, I ran away to China after graduating. I am living in the northeast, in a small city of twelve million – Tianjin – and employed by Tianjin Normal University as a Foreign Language Expert.

The government thinks I'm here to teach. Really, I am here to absorb everything possible about this vast country and its ancient but rapidly evolving culture.

I eventually plan on returning to the West and getting back into broadcast news.

In the meantime, I will continue to explore the world and stockpile international knowledge and experience I hope to someday utilize in the journalism field.



Photo on the Great Wall. I'm going to make a generalization here, but it seems like EVERY Chinese person makes what I thought was the peace sign in pictures... turns out they call it the Victory sign. I was semi-mocking them in this shot.

Cara (Stein) Rinkoff (BNews'03)

I'm in DC working as a producer for News-Channel 8. My husband and I just bought our first house this summer.

Amber Schindeldecker (BNews'03)

At this time last year, I was just getting into the swing of things as the 10 p.m. producer at WINK-TV. Since then, I was promoted to 11 p.m. producer and I even filled in as night-side executive producer while our current EP was on maternity leave.

I'm looking forward to future prospects in middle management.

I still have 1.5 years left on the contract, so I have time to figure out what I want to do next and where I want to do it.

A year ago I became an aunt all over again to a wonderful boy named Graham. He is truly the light of my life!

I've spent plenty of time and a ton of money traveling to Minnesota to be there for milestone moments!

I'm also learning what it's like to be grateful for all the blessings this universe has given me: family, friends and the perpetual summer

Joe Barlow (BNews'10)

In August I became a Storyteller for a new show on Champaign's CBS affiliate, WCIA 3. The hour-long magazine-styled ciLiving.tv replaced Oprah.

When people read my business card and ask me what a Storyteller is I say that my job is to tell the stories that we don't always get to see on the regular news.

We especially focus on positive, funny or unique things about interesting people or places. We get more time to shoot and edit because our stories are long, and feature music and unique edits.

I certainly appreciate everything I learned at Drake, now that I have to shoot, edit and report, but I find it really fun. I consider myself lucky because I've had 2-minute stories and even 7-minute stories.

Thank you Oprah for being a job-creator.

Zach Tecklenburg (BNews'09)

After working for 2.5 years as a multimedia journalist at KTIV, Sioux City, I moved to Kansas City at the beginning of November. I'm now working for KSHB (NBC Action News) as a multimedia journalist.

So far I'm enjoying living in a bigger city, having a faster pace at work and more resources available. While I was definitely ready to move on from Sioux City, it was a great experience and really prepared me for my current job.

Tami Wiencek (BNews'84) directs the Digital Communication program at William Penn University, Oskaloosa, and advises Musco Lighting's Communications Research Institute.

weather in Florida weather in Florida.

Wonderful friends **Kari Fass (RTV'02)** and **Treyva Estler (RTV'02)** met in October for our 3rd Annual Sisterhood Reunion.



This year we visited Kari in Washington State, where I schooled them in the fine art of celebrating Oktoberfest as an authentic German.

Tony Lorino (RTV'03)

Busy year...and a REALLY busy last month or so! Kate Vasconcellos (BCMB'05) and I tied the knot here in Kansas City on Oct. 15th, surrounded by a ton of family and friends.

Special thanks to fellow basement dwellers Adam Ghassemi (BNews'04) and Matt Haeger (RTV'06) for being in the wedding party. We'll be honeymooning in Cancun in the new year.



To add some major life events to the fun, I turned 30 and was promoted to Program Director at 99.7 The Point (KZPT-FM) less than 2 weeks after the wedding. So, it appears that good things DO travel in threes!

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

Olson works as an Avid Editor and Associate Producer at E! Entertainment. He's well underway with his film review blog: sawthatwatchthis.blogspot.com/

He usually reviews 2 films each week. Of course, he takes requests too! Martha reports that was his excuse for going to see Footloose, but she knew he wanted to see it anyway.

Martha recently left her job at OWN to start a new production company, which develops Reality Television and is currently in production on an Internet Game Show called Money Break. She also teaches yoga once a week in Los Angeles.

Martha and John joined **Sam Alvelo's** (**RTV'03**) softball team this summer.

Kirsten (Benton) Johnson

(BNews'96) was tenured and promoted last April to Associate Professor of Communications at Elizabethtown (Pa.) College.

She also serves as the Chair of the department.

She recently co-edited a book titled "News With a View: Journalism Beyond Objectivity." It is scheduled for release in December 2012.

She has authored numerous articles on citizen journalism and credibility. Kirsten teaches television production and broadcast news courses.

Check out 941thedog@drake.edu

Jennifer (Slesnick) Schaeffer (RTV'00)

I still live in Hoboken, NJ, just across the river from NYC with Josh (husband of 8+ years), my 1 1/2 year old son, Avi, and two dogs, Saba and Nori.

I work at Satellite Media Group, a small PR firm in the city, as an associate producer.

We promote clients like e!'s *Kardashian* shows and OWN's *The Rosie Show* and *Jerry Springer*.

I still work with radio stations across the country and dip into the TV world quite a bit. (Even crossed paths with Sara Van Aernum for a TV tour - small world!)



Personally, I am still fighting my Multiple Sclerosis and continue as a top state MS fund-raiser, although the disease has slowed me down a little. I'm President of my condo board and head of publicity at Temple Beth-El in Jersey City.

Feel free to contact me if you're heading out East, look for me on Facebook or mail me at discj1@yahoo.com.

Sarah (Reinwald) Guldalian

(**BNews'03**) enjoys a seventh year producing multi-media training programs for Lutheran Hour Ministries, best known for The Lutheran Hour®, the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program. It reaches more than 800,000 people each week.

One of her most recent professional joys was producing a four-part video series over the summer with Drake RTV senior Autumn Moore as her intern.



Sarah and husband Justin live in St. Louis where he runs daddy-daycare to 2-year-old son Zane during the day and performs as a professional percussionist at night.

Jess Hoffert (BNews'11)

After graduating in May I traveled to Germany for six weeks, allowing me to have a nice bridge between college life and the job search.

While in Germany, I met up with **Jenna DeLong (BNews'11)**, who happened to be playing softball in the Netherlands, just an hour north of where my grandparents live.



She drove her host family's Peugeot on the Autobahn all by herself, not realizing how crazy that was. We had a great time eating German schnitzel, going on a bike ride through the countryside and finishing the day with Italian gelato.

Upon my return to the states, I was lucky to have a job opportunity come my way from Meredith Corporation in Des Moines. I've been working at Meredith for Michigan Travel Ideas magazine since August, creating videos and slideshows for the digital edition.

I also commit a few hours a week to communications work for my church denomination's district of 32 congregations in Iowa, Minnesota and Montana.

I've also taken over as the coordinator for the Iowa Peace Network. I'll work on their newsletter and help organize peace demonstrations and presentations.

So I guess my next appearance on television won't be as reporter but rather as some random guy holding up an anti-war sign. I'm okay with that.

тпок

Jenna DeLong (BNews'11) led her

Netherlands team to a summer European Cup Championship.

I just accepted (mid-December) the assistant softball coaching job at the University of Texas – Dallas. Not exactly the direction I was planning on going a mere two weeks ago, but I am happy to have a paying position somewhere in the USA!

I will miss Des Moines, and Iowa in general. Texas is going to be a whole new adventure. I'm excited.

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

Laura Colaizy (BNews'03)

I work for the same company, Syngenta, a worldwide agribusiness specializing in the manufacturing and sale of seeds and crop protection products.

I'm working as a Business Process Analyst – working on change projects and continuous process improvement efforts. I work primarily in sales and order management as well as forecasting and demand planning. It will be 7 years this summer since I joined the company.

Some more exciting news is that I'm engaged to be married!

Scott and I have been together almost 4 years and he proposed over the Fourth of July weekend at my family's lake place in Minnesota.

It's very exciting and the wedding planning for September 1, 2012, is well underway.

Because we are both huge football fans, both



college and the NFL, we are having our wedding reception at TCF Bank Stadium where the Minnesota Gophers play football. Planning a wedding will be by far the biggest project I've ever managed!

J.D. Fox (RTV'05)

Still hanging out in the Phoenix suburbs working for Stretch Internet, an evolving video and audio streaming provider specializing in college sports.

I have been broadcasting a bit on the side, picking up some fill-in broadcasts for my former employer (Sacramento State) and trying to keep up with all of the changes in video technology. I am also looking to include a trip to Des Moines onto a convention trip to St. Louis this June, as I haven't seen the basement in a couple years.

Earlier in the year, I enjoyed having follow alumnus **Kyle Lobner (RTV'05)** and his wife, Laura, down here for Spring Training, and hope to have some more folks take the trip down this year.

The podcast – The D+ Sports Advantage – I produce with alumnus Travis Monroe (RTV'07) is on hiatus due to our crazy schedules, but will hopefully return during 2012.

Kelly Nass (BNews'99)

After spending 2 1/2 glorious years living and working in Hawaii on *LOST* and the short-lived ABC TV drama *Off The Map*, I have returned to LA. I'm currently Production Coordinator for The CW Network TV show *Hart of Dixie* starring Rachel Bilson, where we turn the Warner Brothers back lot into small-town Alabama.

Perks include meeting special guest stars like NASCAR driver Brian Vickers and enjoying Christmas decorations in our town square in the middle of October.



I recently flew to my hometown of Morehead, KY, to see my dad and watch Drake beat Morehead State, 41-26.

Also, I finally bought my dream car – a pepper white Mini Cooper which I appropriately named "Winnie Cooper."

Can you tell I work in TV???

Frank Carioti (RTV'84)

I had the honor of working with the best team in television on The Farewell Season of *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. As you can imagine, those were epic times!

While wrapping that show was my main professional focus, I also continued editing highlights and packages for the Big Ten Network (now just BTN) and traveling the region as a certified trainer on Smoke by Autodesk.

This past summer I accepted a staff position at Harpo Studios and began editing several properties for OWN. I am now a fixture on the post-production staff of *The Rosie Show* (with an occasional screen credit!), marking Rosie O'Donnell's return to TV on her daily hourlong comedy-talk-game-reality show.

TRS's post schedule is varied, often shot live-to-tape and posted for same-day broadcast in only a couple quick, wild hours! Helping launch a "new" post facility for a nascent cable network has been a sometimes frustrating, always challenging, never boring phase of my career.

Wife Laura and the kids are fine. My eldest will head to high school next fall at the same school from which I graduated some 32 years prior.

By my math that means I turn 50 this coming summer. AARP is already mailing the applications.

Neil Rubenstein (RTV'81)

The past year has brought incredible technological changes to my Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab.

We continue to produce outstanding material for the Dept. of Defense and NASA. For the Messenger Orbit Insertion around Mercury we produced a live, two-hour, multilocation webcast.

In our main auditorium we had an audience of 500 watching the "anchors" host the program.

We connected to our second location for live updates via fiber to our Mission Operations Control room (MOC). Both NASA TV and the NASA HQ site distributed our stream. Our direct stream recorded over 100,000 viewers across the world. Needless to say we were all very proud of the support that we could provide to our large staff of rocket scientists—the real stars of the show. http://www.jhuapl.edu/messenger/mer_orbit.html

Our external website offers a small sampling as well: http://www.jhuapl.edu/multimedia/ default.asp

My greatest accomplishment of 2011 was the launch of Channel 4, an internal news magazine program that centers on APL's past, present and future.



We also do segments on STEM and staff profiles that are involved in global and community outreach.

We have had over 4,000 staff view all three of our produced programs. The programs are streamed directly in HD to desktop using a HaiVision Furnace system which I re-branded as APL VisionNet.

In addition to video and animation production, my team provides digital photographic services, A-V support to 12 general-purpose conference room and 2 auditoriums. This

Bob Gillies (BNews'89)

I hope you use the Penn State situation for an assignment. Great stuff to explore for news or sports and I think this is the tip of the iceberg.

Life is good. We are doing well at Parkside. Tell everyone I am at 4 years there as a therapist and we are expanding our bed capacity to 50. I will be at Relays this year and I am bringing my oldest son, Coburn.

(Ed: Gillies donated enough money for us to purchase top-quality dynamic mics for the Meredith radio studio. Many thanks, Bob.)

Typos or errors? We hope not!



does not include over 100 other Departmentowned conference rooms that we support and maintain.

We also perform all of the design, installation and integration of A-V facilities throughout the Lab consisting of over 5,000 staff in 39 buildings, some of them 2 miles away.

It's quite a task for 18 staff members.

Technically, we stopped shooting tape 2 years ago except as a backup. Everything is shot on Sony SxS cards and Aja Ki-Pro recorders.

We maintain 11 camera packages including 2 multi-cam flypacks that can handle up to 8 inputs each. Most packages use Sony EX-3 cameras. I have just ordered two Sony PKW-F3s that will be paired with a full complement of Zeiss Compact Prime lenses.

The images are truly amazing. We post on FCP 7 but we are seriously looking at Premiere and even going back to AVID as our post-plat-form. No one in my network of professionals is putting much faith in Apple after the FCP X debacle.

Picture is of me presenting to a live audience and also via stream the success of the Channel 4 news magazine.

Neil Rubenstein, Executive Producer/Section Supervisor

Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory

Mary Bock (BNews' 86)

My husband and I are enjoying our empty nest. Rosie is in Rome for the academic year, painting, and Emily has started Business School at Pitt. My book, Video Journalism: Beyond the One-Man Band, is in the production phase and due out in 2012.

Renee (Van Amber) Whisnant

(BNews'97) works for Media Minefield in Minneapolis as a messaging and video specialist.

Brittany Weiss (BNews'09)

After a year and a half of interviewing and producing celebrity segments for AOL and various other outlets in New York City, I moved to Mississippi to take an Anchor/Reporter job at WXVT.



I'm engulfed in the culture and have reported on the controversial personhood debate and University scandal stories.

After being away from News reporting for a couple years, it all came rushing back and I'm happy to be here doing my thing.

I can't wait to learn and grow as a news journalist and finally anchor the news!

LeAndra (Ellison) Guesman (RTV'01)

I married my boyfriend of 5+ years in Kauai during August. It was by far the most amazing time! We were there for 10 days for our wedding and honeymoon, and we never wanted to leave.



I live in Las Vegas. Been here for over 7 years, and I am still addicted to good weather. I work for Regus. We have 6 locations in Vegas, and over 1,100 locations globally.

I lease office space to small and medium size businesses. I've been with the company for 2 years, and enjoy what I do.

I will attend Relays again this year to watch my younger brother, now a junior at North Central College, run. Last year he and his team placed in the 4x200 and 4x400. Being at Relays brings back so many memories...hope to see some of you there!

SJMC's new Web site is quite cool: sjmc.oit.drake.edu/ **Mike Newell (RTV'68)** died at Mercy Hospital Medical Center Dec. 1 following a heart attack six days earlier. Mike produced Iowa Press and other projects for Iowa Public Television.

During 20 years with Iowa Press, Newell scheduled governors, U.S. Senators and Congressmen, State and National Party officials and many presidential candidates.

"My wife, Chris, continues as an Associate Director at the Iowa Board of Nursing and we have two beautiful daughters – Amy and Christine in Chicago – and three beautiful grand daughters.

We don't see them as often as we'd like," Mike wrote for this Newsletter only days before his attack.

"Not too much happening in front of the mic, as I've backed away from many play-by-play assignments. Too much travel!!!"

Newell played football at Drake and became well known for calling radio play-by-play of Drake and University of Iowa women's basketball, and Iowa Oaks and Iowa Cubs baseball.

He anchored many sportcasts and post-game call-in programs for WHO radio.

An "SJMC Outstanding Alumnus," Mike occasionally taught for SJMC and served for a time as our internship coordinator.

Tom Rapp (RTV'10)

I spent the first 6 months after graduation working at a restaurant and doing some freelance work in Des Moines. In February I was hired as a 4-day-a-week KCCI news photographer.

In June I was hired as a part-time videographer and editor for Blur Mediaworks in Des Moines.

We work on a variety of projects from marketing videos to TV commercials. We work with many companies around Central Iowa including the Iowa Speedway and the Iowa Donor Network.

In July I participated in the 48 Hour Film Project in Des Moines for the third consecutive year.

My team included Drake alumni **Joe Barlow** and **Jeremy Scavo**. Current RTV student **Jason Miller** also worked on the film. We made the top 12 and received the producers pick award.

Two other short films are in the editing process and will be submitted to festivals around the Midwest in 2012.

Just recently I participated in the National Film Challenge, which is an offshoot of the 48 Hour Film project. It's done on a national basis as opposed to city by city.

The collaboration involved about 20 local filmmakers.

Kyle Kaiser (RTV'00)

As of July 12, Kaiser left his staff attorney position with the Supreme Court of Texas for similar work in Salt Lake City.

At last correspondence he was defending the State of Utah against a First Amendment challenge to their requirement that any people requesting to march down a major street must provide insurance.

Linda Shelton (BNews'82)

It has been a busy year for us. I'm now the Internal Communications Manager for Tufts Medical Center in Boston.

I truly love my job! It's very busy, but I work with a fantastic group of people and I'm setting up an expanded framework for internal communications.

I recently ran into another Drake alum at a conference in San Francisco, which was a kick. I'm still engaged to my wonderful man; we just haven't set a date yet.

My daughter graduated from high school in June and is now at Syracuse University. She loves it and is doing well, which is just what this proud parent wants to see.

Shelley (Russell) Skuster (BNews'08)

I've been reporting at the FOX affiliate in Omaha for more than a year. I've continued to break a series of stories called "Justice for Juliette" about a 2-year old twin girl who was beaten to death in Western Nebraska three years ago, but still, no arrests.

The stories have aired across the country, from Fresno to Denver. It's stories like Juliette's that are exactly why I love my job.

Google "Justice for Juliette" and you'll be able to see my stories all over the Internet.

I also own a wedding videography business, Visualities Videography, which I absolutely love! I shoot and edit about one wedding each month.

And what's better than being your own boss? Check out "Visualities Videography" on Facebook for the scoop (I had to get in a shameless plug!).

Chris remains a police officer in Omaha. Four-year old Maggie (a Humane Society rescue) is still spoiled beyond belief.



J. C. Crane (RTV'89) serves as the Founder/Executive Vice President of Crane Enterprises and directs the company's Commit 2 Action program.

This program is a professional counseling and motivational seminar service that promotes Diversity Education and Post-Secondary Guidance within a spiritual foundation.



His international reputation includes expertise in cultural affairs, dialogue facilitation, race relations, and diversity audits. His professional accomplishments include creating the Triton College Diversity Learning Center, designing an International Multicultural Training Program, and publishing the Commit 2 Action Post-Secondary Preparation Guide.

He's written articles, presented motivational seminars, and coordinated educational workshops regarding multicultural diversity, and post-secondary education.

In June 2000, J. C. was selected as the inaugural Chairman for the Owensboro (KY) Multiracial Advocacy Committee. He has served as Guest Lecturer for Washtenaw (MI) Community College Intercultural and Interpersonal Communication Courses from July 2003 to November 2008.

J. C. has been chosen to present a session titled, "Building an Intercultural Community" during the Great Plains Association of College Admissions Counselors (GPACAC) Annual Conference in April 2012.

In October 2010, J. C. married **Candace** (Foster) Crane (BA'00; MBA'01). They live in Lee Summit, Missouri.

Sara (Opalinski) Maloney (RTV'00)

I celebrated 10 years at Walsh Media Inc in Oak Brook, IL this year – still in Project Management.

But the biggest celebration for me and husband Brian Maloney (AS'00) was the birth of Neil Andrew Maloney in February.

He joins big brother Liam (3). We're all busy – but happy and healthy!

Allison Grotjan (BNews'00) toils as

dayside Executive Producer at WSYX/WTTE, the ABC/Fox affiliate in Columbus, Ohio. "I am glad to be back in Columbus after 5 years in Pittsburgh," Allison wrote during April. After a busy year filled with college football scandals and lions roaming the countryside, she was looking forward to producing a holiday special focused on a local family featured on Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.

Sarah Stokes (BNews'00)

We had a great start to the New Year! Our baby was born on New Year's Eve! We welcomed Kanyon Christopher Herzog into the world and he has been the center of ours ever since! He's nearly walking and is getting into everything!

The viewers have been following him on Facebook and on my mommy blog since the beginning.



I'm still anchoring the 9 and 10 p.m. newscasts for WEAU and Fox in Eau Claire, WI with my husband, Chris. Still loving it here after 6 years!

Jill Zwagerman (BNews'99)

My big news is that I had baby in March. So, now I have two little girls who are about as girly as they come. I'm not sure how that happened. They must get it from their father.

I'm still a lawyer practicing in discrimination, civil rights and employment law. While I am not seeking out the stories, I have been on the other side with my clients often being the subject of the stories. It's nice to have a little inside information.

I advise them to talk in sound bites to make the editing easier for all of you reporters and producers. Strangely, they don't always listen to me and so the 2-minute quote remains.

Matt Mobley (RTV'09) recently joined Drake Sports Marketing as an information specialist. He wrote in August before accepting the new job that he'd produced his first "professional" wedding video.

Adam Ghassemi (BNews'04)

Last Spring I left KATU (ABC) in Portland, Ore., for top-rated WTVF (CBS) in Nashville.

The slight drop in market size brought a Monday through Friday dayside role along with many other perks.

NewsChannel 5 is a tremendous storytelling shop that gives me access to some of the country's top photojournalists. I couldn't be happier.

Crystal's now APR accredited and serves as the VP of Communications for Fisk University.



Photo: Crystal and Adam sporting "Team 5" shirts at the Mayor's 5k Walk/Run, Nov. 13.

The move brought us a lot closer to friends and family. We're only three hours from Memphis (my hometown) and four from Atlanta (her hometown). That's the closest I've been since pre-Drake days!

We're in the midst of a house search as we plan on calling Tennessee home for years to come.

Adam sits on SJMC's National Advisory Council.



With Bob Schieffer at a Nashville bar during June. Schieffer and his band played a benefit.

Sara (Danzinger) Cooley (BNews'99)

This past year brought many changes. After more than a year of looking for permanent work, I started as the PR Manager at the Girl Scouts River Valleys in September. The work is very rewarding.

Only a few weeks into the job, we found out we are expecting our second child. Caleb is 4 years old and the baby is due Memorial Day Weekend. Many blessings and we are enjoying every one.

Chris Scholl (BNews'85)

Not a ton to update here. I'm still with CBS and my big story this year has been breaking the ATF "Fast and Furious" gun-walker scandal along with my correspondent Sharyl Attkisson. It's kept me busy for months.

Very proud of my 21-year old son, Adam, who this past year managed to be both a White House intern in the Office of the First Lady and a sled-dog handler in Alaska. Talk about extremes!

Maureen McKamey (BNews '11)

After graduating last spring, I lucked out finding a job in TV news. I'm working as a reporter for CRI-TV, a non-profit TV station in Oskaloosa, Iowa. I cover health and business stories for the CRI Weekly News.

Most recently, I've also started anchoring the news show every other week and have started as co-executive producer for Oskaloosa Today, CRI's monthly, documentary-style show.



Being a reporter for CRI is slightly unusual. I work weekdays from 9-5 (with the exception of a few on-call weekends).

I get paid enough that I can live on more than just peanut butter and ramen noodles; and because the station is hyper-local, I have the opportunity to produce more in-depth, longer form pieces.

I'm glad I was able to stay in Iowa. I'm pretty close to Des Moines, and the drive back to my hometown in Minnesota isn't too bad, either.

Jeff Duitch (RTV'98)

I'm still working as the medical filing clerk for Ruan Neurology Clinic at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. I do some Torah and Judaic text learning everyday and I still occasionally videotape events for people at my synagogue.

One new thing with me this year is that I have coordinated and put together two reunions for a whole bunch of my friends living in the Des Moines area from my K-12 school days (West Des Moines schools). Both of these reunions were so much fun and another reunion is being planned for sometime this winter.

Chris Parrish (BNews'05)

Chris and Catie Bielecki married in Morris, Ill, Oct. 15. He's produced for WHDH, Boston, since November 2010. He was previously executive producer for WOI-TV.

Barbara Kao (BNews'03) I am still working in TAITRA as trade show manager. I manage two trade shows: Foodtech & Pharmatech TAIPEI and TAIPEI PACK. Check foodtech.com.tw & taipeipack.com.tw.

Our presidential election is Jan. 14, 2012, and by July 2012 all analog TV signals convert to digital.

Everything in Taipei is FAST, but I try to keep my life simple and be more deciplined.

I started Tai-Chi and play golf (it's a sport trend here). I am still learning Spanish, and hope someday I can go back to Latin America. I really love learning!

Kailyn (Reid) Watson (BNews'05)

The most exciting part of 2011 was my wedding in May. J.T. and I married in Omaha and then spent a week in Hawaii enjoying the sun, sand and even surfing!

I'm approaching five years as a public relations specialist for the Omaha Public Schools. With more than 80 schools in our district, there's always something going on.

I still feel like a reporter because I'm constantly covering the news of the district. Writing, photography and videography/editing skills certainly come in handy.

In addition to my day job, my husband and I took classes to become certified tax professionals for H&R Block, where we worked part-time last tax season. It started as a way to earn a little extra money for our wedding and honeymoon, but since it went so well, we decided to take continuing education classes and work there again during the upcoming tax season.

Jill (Lingwall) Farmer (BNews/

RTV'91) is a Life Coach, working with men and women around the country. She's using her J-School skills to write articles and create video blogs to share ideas and tools on her website.

She does lots of Keynote speaking, as well as seminar and retreat leadership (jillfarmercoaching.com).



Ann Kaatz (RTV'97)

I'm working at NBCUniversal as the IT Director of Client Services, focused on supporting the cable networks within NBCU. It's been an interesting year navigating the Comcast-NBCU merger.

On the home front, I've enjoyed the first year of being a mom and am planning my wedding for early next year. Still living in Venice, CA, but I don't get to the beach as often as I wish.

I was recently honored with an Appreciation Award during the annual Stoked Awards for my work with the non-profit Stoked Mentoring over the past five years.



Best wishes to all my old classmates and all the past Meredith basement dwellers.

Rob Sobkoviak (RTV'90)

After spending the better part of 2010 cycling, I switched to running in 2011. I spent the late spring into the summer months in endurance training with Team In Training. In August I ran two separate half marathons, and on Oct. 9, 2011, I ran the Chicago Marathon.

I raised over \$1,000 for cancer research.



In June I married Christine, and we live in Joliet. Christine ran the Chicago Marathon in 2010 and 2011 – also with Team In Training – and has raised over \$5,000 for cancer research.

I continue to be employed in Enterprise Architecture by Discover Financial Services at their corporate headquarters in Riverwoods, Illinois, and will have been there for 10 years in the spring of 2012.

Mark Carlson (BNews'10)

I've entered my second year as the Iowa City reporter for KCRG-TV 9, Cedar Rapids. I really enjoy Iowa City and the many interesting news stories the people here consistently provide.

In addition to daily television reporting, I have been writing quite a bit for the Gazette Newspaper, as our parent company owns both the TV station and the newspaper.

In the past year I have covered a wide range of stories in SE Iowa, with the most notable being the killing of a Keokuk County deputy in early April. We were the first news station to arrive on the scene, and despite warning from the State Patrol, we witnessed (from a safe distance) the tactical team take down the shooter as he fired shots at them.

As I listened to the tense situation play out on the scanner, I realized I truly had entered the "Real World."



Personally my life has not changed a whole lot. I still watch too much TV, play too many video games and cannot cook much more than a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Growing-up is a bit rough, but I'm working on it. It sure helps having a job that makes me want to get out of bed in the morning!

Jeff Marcus (RTV'85) authored the book series American Record Sleeves (record-sleevebooks.com).

Additionally, he writes for Goldmine music magazine and has recently interviewed Herb Alpert, all four original members of The Monkees, Johnny Rivers, Chuck Negron of Three Dog Night, Neil Sedaka, Ron Dante, Fabian, Hal Blaine, Carole Kaye and Don Randi. Jeff does voice-over work and is an MC/DJ in the Phoenix market.

Jeff enjoys spending time with his daughter Brittany (22), his Shiba Inu Mojo, and friends.



Amy Schmelzer (RTV'96)

I'm still at KCCI in Des Moines and still directing the 6 & 10 p.m. news. We finally made the switch to HD in May and to server-based play-out over the summer. I had my fingers in those projects.

And, of course, it's getting to be Caucus time, so I'm gearing up for our coverage of that.



As you can see, I won my second, consecutive Regional Emmy for Newscast Directing in September.

Laurel (Bower) Burgmaier (BNews'95)

I am still working at Iowa Public Television, producing three documentaries and providing stories for the nationally syndicated agri-business program Market to Market.

The three long-format productions include a documentary about the Farm Crisis of the 1980s, a program about George Washington Carver and a project about images from the Adair Free Press in Greenfield, Iowa, a newspaper started by the Sidey family in the late 1800s.

I have written and received grants from Humanities Iowa to produce the Farm Crisis documentary and from the State Historical Society of Iowa to scan and archive the Sidey images. There are an estimated 10,000 negatives from the Adair Free Press to examine.



My husband and I are enjoying every minute with daughter Halle who turned 2 in August. She is extremely strong-willed and despite her small stature, takes command of every situation.

Jack Doles (RTV'86)

I have no idea how it happened, but I just finished my 25th year as a sportscaster, starting my 22nd year at WOOD-TV in Grand Rapids, MI.



Except for the days we have to talk about stories like Penn State, I'm still enjoying going to work each day.

I haven't been to Des Moines in a couple of years now, but still keep up with John Walters, Dave Lubbers and Rick Rungaitis.

Heidi (Biedermann) (BNews'98) & Scott Gojkovich (RTV'97)

Heidi made a big move this year at KCCI NewsChannel 8. She went back to mornings!

It was a huge opportunity to overhaul our morning newscast, and the hard work is paying off! For the first month or so, I wondered what in the world I had done. Forgot about the shock of working overnights.

But all is well now, and I am treasuring the extra time with my girls. I get to pick them up every day after school, which is awesome! Hailey is 6 and in first grade, and Riley will be 3 by the time you read this. Scott and I also celebrated our 12th anniversary in October!



Scott continues to fulfill many roles at the Des Moines Radio Group: Operations Manager for the building, Program Director for Star 102.5 and Lite 104.1.

Every day is still challenging for him, which he thrives on.

Amanda Lewis (BNews'01) reports and anchors for KCCI, Des Moines. She also serves as this area's Expanded Media coordinator.

Travis Monroe (RTV'07)

Bridget and I are happily settled in the Twin Cities after moving from New York! We made the transition from being apartment dwellers and relying on public transit to homeowners and solving the daily traffic jams fairly quickly.

In its first full year, our video production and digital marketing company, Mediamazing (mediamazing.net), is off to a great start. We've worked on some cool projects for companies such as Best Buy, General Mills, and Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys, and I am currently tackling the social media strategy for the start-up Yokal Sports.

I've also joined forces with Instant Request to provide DJ services across the metro.

Bridget works as a senior account executive at Bellmont Partners Public Relations, bringing her background in digital strategy, social media, and journalism to the agency.

She also holds leadership roles with several local organizations, including the Minnesota Interactive Marketing Association, the Minnesota Blogger Conference, and the Minneapolis Content Strategy Meetup.

Mark Stevens (BNews'10) works as a one-man band for WTVO/WQRF, Rockford. It's been an interesting experience to say the least.

He's learned a lot from gathering experience in the field as well as reading from other reporters' experiences on journalism web forums. Originally hired as a weekend reporter, Mark was promoted to weekday nightside in January, where he covers Rockford's City Council.

There's been a lot of turnover as the station attempts to battle its way out of third and fourth place in the market. The GM was promoted to the company's Green Bay market, which Mark reports has not been a bad thing. The new GM is more open to live shots, reporters on set, and feature pieces.

Mark also dabbles in anchoring. He fills in occasionally for the morning show and also fills in rarely for the station's news radio partner WROK-AM.

He plans to move on this summer after finishing his second year in Rockford. His home market, the Quad-Cities looks tempting, but then again so does Hawaii.

(Ed: Thanks for sending the aircheck!)

Sean Gannon (RTV'92, BFA `91)

was hired to write the screenplay for Serenity Farm (SerenityFarmTheMovie.com), a horror film set in an abandoned military facility in the Pacific Northwest. The film was shot this summer and will be released on DVD next spring.

Brad Ehrlich (BNews'03) reports morning traffic for WHO-TV and news for WHO radio.

Mike Mitchell (BNews'84)

Since joining Kraft Foods in 2008 as the head of corporate external communications, it's been a bit of a whirlwind in my space – crafting strategic and financial communications for this \$50 billion global food powerhouse.



In the span of just four years, Chairman and CEO Irene Rosenfeld (Fortune's Most Powerful Woman in Business) and her team have transformed the company by rejuvenating iconic brands like Oreo cookies, Philadelphia cream cheese and, of course, Kraft macaroni and cheese.

I've helped Irene inform news media and investors of our regular financial disclosures. What's more, I've helped prepare her to gain support for major changes in our portfolio: selling cereals (Post) and frozen pizza (DiGiorno) while acquiring the global biscuits (LU), chocolate (Cadbury), gum (Trident) and candy (Halls) brands.

So what's next?

Split!

I'm not planning to leave, but the company will separate itself into two strong independent public companies by the end of 2012. One will be a high-growth global snacks business focused on chocolate, biscuits, gum and candy. And the other will be a high-margin North American business focused on center-of-thestore grocery staples.

Maggie (Buttweiler) Blehert (BNews'96)

I handle communications for Cruise Holidays, a cruise-specialty travel agency franchisor. My duties include PR, web writing, social networking, writing and proofing some marketing copy, and communications to franchise owners.

I've been with the company since 2004. I usually get to take at least one work-related cruise a year, which is a perk I enjoy!

My husband, Steve, and I, recently left our townhome for a house in Golden Valley, MN. Our sons, Alex (2.5) and Jonathan (almost 8 months), love frolicking in the extra space!

Adrianne (Traxinger) Michele (RTV'96)

This year, I was accepted into the Department of Defense's Executive Leadership Development Program. It's a mouthful, but in layman's terms, it's a hands-on, immersion-type learning experience for DOD civilians. About 60 of us had a two-week leadership "boot camp" and are now doing site visits to learn about military missions around the world.

With these trips, we get a first-hand look at what the ground troops are experiencing, so when we make or influence policy in our everyday jobs, we know who it affects.

We had our first trip to the Republic of Korea (a.k.a. South Korea). There's so much I didn't know, and I've been associated with the military for almost 10 years! We saw the continuing tension between North and South, how South Korea is always preparing in case the North violates the armistice, and actually got to visit the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).



In the photo I'm standing on the South Korean side, but that's North Korea behind me. The blue buildings are actually straddling the line, and belong to whichever force is inside them at the time.

Over the next 7 months, we'll visit Combatant Commands and the different military services. I'm particularly looking forward to some training with the SEALs in San Diego! That will probably be so awesome it will be my update next year!

Courtney Skelcher (BNews'10)

I took the LSAT last year and got accepted to my dream school – William Mitchell College of Law!

It's been non-stop since I started. I moved to St. Paul, which is not far from my Northeast Minneapolis roots, but still a whole new experience!

I love getting to know and exploring St. Paul. I have gotten involved with a few groups on campus while still waitressing and working as a nanny.

My most recent accomplishment was getting accepted onto the mock trial team. We started practicing a few weeks ago. It's really exciting because it's not something many 1-L's get to experience. We will go to Washington, DC, to compete at the beginning of March.

Aaron Gernes (BNews'11)

I'm the News Director for KNIA/KRLS Radio in Knoxville, located about 50 minutes southeast of Des Moines. It's a small town with a county seat, so I've worked with multiple county agencies and officials in addition to the city agencies and officials.

I've met and interviewed multiple members of Congress. I've been awakened at 1:30 a.m. to cover a fire. I've been on scene for accidents.

There is a lot more news in a small town than people would think. Some of the information that's considered "community calendar" in a large town is the lifeblood of a small town. It's what people care about.

I think the most interesting part is how important relationships are. I deal directly with the fire chief, the police chief, the mayor, the superintendent... it's a fine line you have to walk in order to accurately and sincerely report the news without out upsetting them.

The hardest part?

Obituaries.

Lot's of confusing Dutch names in this area, and we have to read those obits on the air.

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



Eric continues to practice corporate mergers & acquisitions law at Kegler Brown Hill & Ritter in Columbus, OH. Nori stays at home with daughters Kyra, 5, and Kayla, 3. Nori also still does print modeling and TV commercials. She recently started writing freelance features for the Columbus Parent newspaper.

Dorothy (Michalek) Gray (BNews'03)

Nearing two years now at FOX Chicago News. Still working as a producer on our 4:30 am-10 am "Good Day Chicago" M-Fri program. 5 1/2 hours is a heck of a lot of time to fill, so it's always crunch time! Still living in Munster, Indiana – only about a half hour drive from downtown.

We had to put down one of our dogs this past year, but my husband and I are still keeping busy with 1 dog and 2 cats. No human kids yet =)

Andrea (Froelich) McMaster (BNews'98)

After 12 years in Omaha, our family returned to our home state Minnesota at the beginning of 2011. We now have 3 girls (ages 6, 2, and 10 months). It's been wonderful having both sets of grandparents nearby.



Photo includes my youngest daughter, Anna. I was very fortunate to find a job working part-time for a former Minneapolis television investigative reporter. She owns her own public and media relations firm, Media Minefield (media-minefield.com).

This company is a great fit after spending years in front of a television camera.

Everyone in the firm has spent at least a decade in a newsroom. Therefore, we tell our clients that the successful strategies and methods that define the company weren't acquired in classrooms.

We help clients with media coaching and dynamic training seminars, organizational messaging, web and social media strategies, fund-raising events, video production, crisis communication and planning, publications, news release preparation and story placement.

It's been exciting to connect with Drake grads in the Twin Cities area and network with them to find potential clients.

Sara Van Aernum (BNews'01)

I'm about to start my 8th year at WTTG in DC where I'm a Senior Producer. This year I won my 3rd Emmy for Best Morning Show. I still love my job! In my "free time" I travel. I'm going skiing in Park City, competing in the Disney Princess Half Marathon in Orlando and attending the Grammy Awards in L.A. all in the first ten weeks of 2012!



Jennifer Fah (RTV'95)

This year has been very busy out here in LA-LA Land. At one point last year, four different series that I edited were airing at the same time!

I edited The Fran Drescher Tawk Show, which previewed in 7 markets for 3 weeks. Since then, I have kept busy editing Kidnapped by the Kids for OWN, a second season as lead editor on Baggage for GSN and I just wrapped up posting Majors & Minors for HUB, and am about to start work on America's Worst Tenants for Spike.



Personally, I have kept up with my running by completing my 6th full marathon (it felt like it was half swimming as it was in a torrential downpour, something that's fairly rare here in Southern California!) and my 16th-22nd half marathons.

I have set myself a goal of running 40 half marathons by my 40th birthday in January of 2013, completing the 40th ON my birthday.

Alexandra (Sweet) Bayer (BNews'95)

I reside in Belmont, between San Francisco and San Jose and am still working in the legal department of a biotech company, on patenting of drug technology. I also occasionally do freelance attorney arbitration work.



However, the best thing that has happened to me this year is that my husband Al and I welcomed our first baby on Oct. 21. We had a baby girl named Madison Emily Bayer who weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 ozs. and was 20.25 inches long.

We just love her to pieces. She will definitely make this holiday season memorable.



Spring 1992 JMC100 Field Trip lunch stop at Taste of Thailand.

Marc Donnelly (RTV'96)

On the home front in Minneapolis, the family's doing great and kids are growing up. Paige (8) started 3rd grade this year and Sam (5) just started kindergarten. Both of them are getting ready for downhill skiing and ice-skating.



With the kids now in school, Jennie is working part time for a friends business at FunkyChunkyinc.com.

I'm still at Target (15 years) and on a team architecting/managing Target's data centers networks. It's a great team that uses the latest technology.

A few years back I started the Target Photography social club at work. We've grown from 12 to over 700 members and hold monthly brown bag meetings.

So those RTV photojournalism classes are still very handy!

Lynn (Growchowski) DeRolf

(RTV'08) works for Wisconsin Public Television as a producer-director.

I supervised my first large out-of-town production during October. I'm coming up on my one-year anniversary at WPT in December (2011).

Lynn and husband Andy bought their first house over the summer.

Matt Shattuck (BNews'11) is employed by Anawim Housing in Des Moines. He's working with the agency's Web site and social media. Following graduation Matt worked for the City of Grimes to improve their Web product. "Got a Flip Cam from the school district. Going crazy," he wrote during July.

Emily Hajduk (BNews'07) is CEO

and co-founder of CityFit.com. She and News-Internet graduate **Ian Matthews** are based in the Chicago area. Emily and Ian visited campus during September to discuss their site.

Denise (Mock) Nazzaro (BNews'01)

Busy searching for a new position in communications, and also busy beginning married life! After three years together, Dan and I married this past May!



Jarrett Schneider (BNews'07)

serves as communications director for Congressman Leonard Boswell. He was previously communications director for Iowa's Secretary of State and for the year before that, a reporter for WHO-TV. **Dave Kelly (BNews'81)** wrote, produced and narrated two documentaries in the last couple of years. The first, titled Long Days Working Hard, examines the West Coast World War II experience through extensive use of old film, photos, and rare documents from the National Archives.

Numerous first person interview accounts serve to humanize the subject matter.

Southern California shipbuilding, aircraft manufacturing, aviation, oil production, Navy activity and the evacuation of Japanese Americans constitute some of the main topics covered. Long Days Working Hard has made the rounds of PBS stations across the country, debuting in early December 2009. Iowa Public Television aired the hour-long program in May 2010.

A second documentary features the Panama Canal and the current efforts to add a third set of locks. Panama Canal Expansion: The Battle for Jobs and Cargo reviews the tumultuous history of the canal's original construction and previews the potential consequences of the new, larger locks.

The program was recently honored with a WAVE Award in the category of best documentary events.



Kelly is the director of Advanced Media Production at California State University, Long Beach. He supervises a professional team that produces public affairs programming for the university and its 24/7 local cable educational TV channel.

In his spare time, Kelly enjoys training and competing in 5K running events for charity.

Matt Bolger (RTV'03)

We returned to Iowa this past summer and bought a house in North Liberty, which puts us close to much of my family.

My wife is working at the University of Iowa as an OB/GYN and I'm working as an assistant women's basketball coach at Mount Mercy University. I spend most of my time recruiting or watching tape. We are having a pretty good season so far, and we're hoping to make it to the national tournament in March.

Averie is 3 and goes to preschool, where she is already making way too many male friends for my liking.

Chris Rooney (BNews'04)

In the past two years, my wife (**Robin Tyler**, **Marketing'03**) bought our first house in the suburbs of Minneapolis.

I took a new job within Medtronic, managing our physician advisors. This position lets me work with physicians and engineers from around the world to make our products better and save more lives.

It's challenging, humbling and ultimately, very rewarding.



We spent last Christmas in Ireland (hence the Guinness in the photo), which will probably be our last big trip for a while as Robin and I are expecting our first child in the spring!

We are eagerly (and nervously!) preparing the house (and the dog!) for the addition.

Sandy (McCrimmon) Henry

(RTV'88) teaches Drake advertising students to be creative.

The assistant professor also remains active in community and service activities.

Glenn Biermann (RTV'89) visited the JMC100 Television Field Photography class during Fall Semester to discuss and display the intricacies of field lighting.

Biermann generates award-winning news video for KCCI, Des Moines.



The background photograph shows intern Biermann working for NBC during the 1988 Caucuses. Love that tape-to-tape editing!

Robyn (Viloria) Weins

(BNews'99) accepted a position as assistant principal of Chinook Middle School in the Highline (Washington) Public School District.

E-Media 2011

Cody Gough (RTV'07)

Still happily living in Chicago, I returned to WGN Radio in January to go back to producing the *Brian Noonan Show*, which is moving to Sundays from 6-10 p.m. starting in 2012 (no more weekend overnights!!).

I've become quite an on-air personality, between bantering with Brian on-air and hosting live cooking shows at the Kenmore Live Studio, where I spent all year regularly hosting shows in front of live studio audiences that are broadcast live to our Livestream channel.

On the acting front, I can now call myself a proud graduate of the top two improv schools in Chicago (Second City and iO Theater), an education which has helped me land four agents, a lead role in two Web series, the lead role in a no-budget indie feature film about Dance Dance Revolution (yes, I'm serious), and too many commercial auditions to count.

I haven't booked a lot of paid work yet, but my goal is to hit Los Angeles if and when I become SAG eligible, so I'm hoping that 2012 will be my year!

In the meantime, I hope to start staffing trade shows through my newest agent, and to continue to send all of my personal information to everyone on Craigslist who has any chance of casting me in something. Feel free to "Like" my fan page on Facebook if you think it will help anything.

I'm not hard to find!

Treyva Estler (RTV'02) worked on

several video editing projects during the year. Her work appeared on MTV (*I Used to be Fat – Josh*), Spike (*Bar Rescue – The Blue Frog 22*) and other channels.

"Bar Rescue was my baby," she wrote in August. "I worked on many episodes, but (Blue Frog) was my primary assignment – about 5 weeks of work."

Stephanie Foreman (BNews'07)

works in the printing industry as office manager for Roll Services/Specialty Papers in Stillwater, MN. Cool Web site (specialtypapers. net).

Norm Ogilvie (BNews'81) returned with his track team to participate in the NCAA trials at Drake Stadium during June.

Norm directs track & Field at Duke, approaching 22 years at the institution.

"Even if I wasn't the most dedicated broadcast journalist of all time, I did learn the skills needed to get started and the confidence to reach for the network level after my stellar Mason City (KIMT-TV Sports) days," he wrote during an e-mail exchange.

Tony Tracy (BNews'10)

After graduating last December, I worked briefly as a KCCI production assistant while waiting for my LSAT scores. Upon learning that I had been accepted to The University of Creighton School of Law, I took a job with Wells Fargo.

During the Summer, I asked my girlfriend to marry me and (fortunately) she said yes. Hannah graduated from Drake in the spring with a degree in Law, Politics and Society. We attend Creighton Law together and are enjoying this new chapter in our lives, though we wish less of it were devoted to studying.



We are looking forward to the long break of the holidays, and looking for a new apartment after the spring semester so we can adopt a puppy.

My journalism education gave me a Bulldog's leg up on my competition.

I miss taping basketball games and getting the opinion of the townspeople on important issues for my "hard-hitting" class stories. But, the skills that I learned would have helped me in any field.

By the way, I haven't forgot about the endowment fund you suggested I set up. I'll call after I make my first million!

Van Harden (RTV'73) is program director and morning co-host for WHO-AM, Des Moines. The National Association of Broadcasters named Van and Bonnie Lucas their Medium Market Personality of the Year.

Van and Bonnie beat finalists from Birmingham, Dover, Chattanooga and Cleveland for their Marconi.

Van hosts the radio news class each fall for a tour and discussion at Clear Channel's building on Grand Ave.



Kristen (Foster) Fink (BNews'06)

Chris and I live and work in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. I teach geography and history to 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th graders.

My school is very small, but growing. Last year my largest class was 10. This year I have one that has 14 students!

I have had to be very clever and forget everything I know about technology because I am back to teaching "old-school" with a whiteboard and markers (at least it's not a chalk board!)

I recently ordered a cable that will let me hook my laptop to a TV, so that will be something new and exciting for 2012.

We've managed to get back to Iowa three times since we moved down here, and are looking forward to Christmas in Iowa. I don't see us returning permanently to the US for a few more years.

One nice thing about living down here is the travel options. Together we've taken students on a field trip to the Copán (Mayan) Ruinas and I led a group of students in our nationwide Model UN conference last year.



We were also able to visit the Colonial town Antigua, Guatemala, this fall, and are looking ahead to a spring break trip to Peru and attending the 2012 Olympics in London!

We chronicle our travels on our blog, teguciwhat.com

Ellie Bastian (RTV'10) was granted a Fulbright research scholarship to begin in September. She was headed for Russia to produce a documentary. She interned for the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge.

Alexa Horwart (BNews'08) received full tuition and a stipend to attend the University of Minnesota and work on her master's degree. "Compared to the other schools, the U of M felt more comfortable, supportive, collaborative, personal," she wrote. She was accepted at Johns Hopkins and Columbia, among other institutions.

Tisleen Singh (RTV'10) works as an admissions counselor for Drake. She's no stranger in the halls of Meredith. Keep those future broadcasters coming!

Abbie Hamilton (RTV'09) Eric Michel (RTV'08)

ABBIE: I remain at Optimus in Chicago. Our office shuffled personnel this fall, which resulted in a promotion for me to production coordinator. I handle most tech-related issues, but I now handling more coordinating/producer tasks, such as tax incentive paperwork, actualizing and wrapping jobs, booking crew, and going out on the field to be the point person on smaller productions.

We shot more Blackhawks this year, a little spot with Mike Ditka, our very first car (Ford) shoot, a high speed Motorola ad and we even shot with the MTV Real World cast.



ERIC: I'm in the middle of my second year at Chicago-Kent College of Law, specializing in environmental and energy law.

Classes have been going very well, and fall semester I worked for a federal judge in downtown Chicago, writing draft opinions on the various cases that were assigned to her chambers. I am also hoping to publish a research paper I've written on hydraulic fracturing wastewater this upcoming semester.

Abbie and I just put up our Christmas tree in our cozy apartment on Chicago's north side for the third year.

I also play in a four-on-four basketball league with **Kevin Haas (BNews'08)** on Wednesday nights. He is still better than me.

Marianne Coppock (RTV'01) works for Two Rivers Marketing.

"Agency culture is something I've always been fascinated by and knew the experience would be good for me."

She also produces an air shift for the Des Moines Radio Group and writes a parenting column for a local magazine.

Lauren Mease (RTV'10) works for Competitive Edge promotional products in Des Moines as marketing manager. "I will be in charge of not only marketing aspects, but I will be doing all of their video production for their website," she wrote.

Marlene (Barforough) Mc'Cohen

(BNews'03) visited campus during November while in Des Moines to screen her film *Pretty* at the Wild Rose Independent Film Festival.

Marlene reports she's acted in 15 independent films and on the TV series *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*. See marlenemccohen.com.

That fellow posing with Marlene looks familiar...



Alice (Keefer) Edwards (BNews'93)

(I) took my son, David, to Drake (during a summer visit). We broke into the TV studio and I took a picture. He was fascinated.

He says he wants to make movies. He's almost 5, so he should start preparing for what his career will be.



We ran into Todd Evans and chatted with him for a few moments before David was ready to run to the next painted bulldog for a picture.

I'm still working as an attorney with the Army Corps of Engineers. We're having lots of issues coming up with all of the flooding. I also did some work on real estate matters dealing with the clean up in Joplin due to the tornado.

My husband's last duty here at the Corps was also working in Joplin for a couple of weeks. He's now an attorney with FDIC.

Dan Bolsem (BNews'97) moved from KCCI's photojournalism staff to the station's Creative Services area.

Replacing Bolsem on the news staff was **Jeremy Scavo (RTV'10)** following employment at KCRG-TV, Cedar Rapids.

Melissa (Gundlah) Hintz

(BNews'86) rejoined the Integer Group in Des Moines during April as a media buyer/ planner.

During the 12 previous years Melissa worked for Strategic America in a similar capacity.

She sits on SJMC's National Advisory Council and has been a School Board member in Newton.

Lindsay Reinert (RTV'04) coordinates marketing & promotions efforts for the Des Moines Radio Group, concentrating on KIOA 93.3 and STAR 102.5.



Thanks to Lindsay for organizing a December visit to DMRG by the JMC67 Digital Audio Writing and Production class. In addition to touring the studios of the seven-station group, students visited with a copywriter and the Group's imaging producer.

Barrett Tryon (BNews) serves KRDO

(TV), Colorado Springs, as Digital Content director and web/tech/entertainment reporter. He invited E-Media alumni to follow him @ Barrett Tryon.

Darrell Ewalt (RTV'83) is executive producer for HDNet Sports, with offices in Dallas and Denver. He earned his master's degree from Wichita State.

Jaime Thies (BNews'10) produces newscasts and edits stories for WOI-TV. She visited the capstone DrakeLINE class during February with station log and newscast rundown in hand.

George Davison (RTV'71) was among 60 applicants for a seat on the Iowa Supreme Court early in 2011. Candidate interviews were streamed live. George performed very well but was not selected as a finalist.

Molly Nelson (RTV, BNews'03) reports for KCCI, Des Moines.

E-Media 2011

David Lubbers (BNews'86) contin-

ues field producing for ESPN. His segments primarily air on the network's documentary program Outside the Lines. Several of his pieces have been nominated for national awards.

Lubbers commutes to his assignments and editing sessions in Connecticut from his Des Moines home. David visits advanced E-Media classes to screen his segments when his schedule allows.

He's also an SJMC national councilor.

Rebekah Maxwell (BNews'10) is

executive producer for conservative Central Iowa communicator Steve Deace. She previously reported for WHO-AM, Des Moines. Student reporting awards came from many news organizations including AP, IBNA and RTDNA.

Katie (Willeke) Cothron

(BNews'02) has relocated from Chicago to her new position as assignment editor at KMOV (TV), St. Louis.

Jerry Wetzel (RTV'83) stopped at Drake during spring term while visiting the Midwest for basketball production.

He directs Electronic Media for the University of Florida Athletic Association.

In December 2010 Wetzel's staff was finishing Phase 1 of moving offices into the College of Journalism building which also contains five radio stations and three TV stations.

Phase 2 of the move installs fiber and a centralized control room.



Associate Dean David Wright shows Wetzel some changes in Meredith Hall.

Wright enjoys sabbatical this academic year, with stops including Europe, the British Isles and the Holy Land.

Dayna Schmidt (RTV'04) is a business developer for MotoMedia in Chicago. The fullservice digital production company produces Commercials, Web Video, Corporate Events and other original content.

Kerry (Poppert) Goodson

(BNews'93) until late-December 2010, was senior vice president of Diversified Management Services in Des Moines. Late in the year she sold her company stock and was planning to retire.

"It's been a great ride for 12 years and I'll miss many of my clients, employees, the exotic travel and owner perks. HOWEVER I won't miss the 60 to 80 hour weeks/weekends/24/7 on call at all times," she wrote.

Brenda (Drey) Benge (BNews'95)

reported after last year's newsletter "hit the stands" that she and Kenny held the same jobs in the Cedar Rapids area.

Brenda worked for Yellow Book USA.

Son Zachary was 3 and daughter Emily was expected in January. How the kids have grown, evidenced by this season's card.



Scott Huskey (RTV'75) consults broadcast stations. After receiving last year's Newsletter he wrote, "It was great to see some old faces and see some that I did not know were Drake grads. I kinda work with Tony Lorino in KC as I consult 106.5 The Wolf in their cluster."

Shawn Brend (RTV'07) wrote in late December 2010, "I have been busy with a new job. I got offered a job at Sedgwick CMS a few months ago. I am examining and litigating liability claims for Sedgwick, which is a third party claims administrator and I am loving it. Glad to see good things still coming out of the J school."

Danielle Sauka (BNews'09) produces weekend newscasts for KCCI, Des Moines. Following graduation she produced newscasts for WHBF (TV), Rock Island.

Pat Parris (BNews'87)

Fox Sports Midwest, St. Louis. We frequently see Pat's interviews and analysis of professional and collegiate hockey, football and baseball.

Jonathan Quinn (RTV'10)

I am a freelance photographer and videographer in the Des Moines area. My work includes portrait and event photography, photo journalism and commercial videography for local and national clients, including the Des Moines Register, Juice, Jolesch Photography, Applied Art and Tech, CGI Communications and BBDO Media.

In the past year, I have traveled more than 40,000 miles.

While not working, I love to go train watching and sailing and work on cars. My home office is covered with many lego airplane models.



This fall, I married **Rachel Vogel (Mags'10).** She works as a writer/editor at Central College in Pella.

We live in Des Moines, a city we both love.

Tammy Erlandson (BNews'08)

wrote after the last Newsletter emerged, Greg is working at Simpson College in their marketing and public relations department. He loves it!

I am currently at HSI, a work comp claims company. It's decent money, so I'm okay for now!



Mellany (Honza) Zepelak (RTV'00)

Mellany has been coaching Twin Cities-area women one-on-one and in groups for nearly a decade.

She left Corporate America to pursue coaching full time. She completed her coaching certification through Coach Training Alliance (CTA) and founded Fruitful Branches Coaching.

Her mission is to help strong Christian women gain rest, less stress, and more time.

Naomi Martig (BNews'01) recently

relocated to Washington, DC, after working in Hong Kong for six years.

As in Hong Kong, she is a freelance reporter and writer, mainly for Voice of America and Microsoft Advertising. She also works at a non-profit organization in DC that addresses sexual assault issues.



Naomi was recently married. She and her husband Stephen are expecting their first child in June next year.

Exciting times ahead!

Erin (Moody) Kiernan (BNews'96)

continues co-anchoring WHO-TV's prime newscasts. She's a regular visitor during the spring term capstone experience, DrakeLINE.

Jody Moser (BNews'06)

I'm still producing the 5 p.m. news at WRTV. The station has undergone several changes this year, and we're not done yet.

We got a new general manager at the beginning of the year and a new news director several months ago. We're currently transitioning to new ownership. McGraw-Hill decided to sell its broadcasting division and the FCC just approved a sale to E.W. Scripps.

It seems like a solid company and the executives appear to have a firm idea on how to move this industry forward. The hour show keeps me busy and stressed.

I got engaged in April and will be getting married in August to a television reporter I met while working (her previous job) in South Bend. We've been together nearly five years and I can't wait to marry him :)

John Walters (RTV'84) Dave Zawilinski (RTV'05) Joey Donia (BNews'07) are the WOI-

TV5 Sports Department.

Sports Director Walters continues as playby-play voice of Iowa State football and men's basketball.

John's absences keep Dave and Joey busy! Thanks to the guys for supporting SJMC through class visits and internship sponsorship.

Anamarie Rebori (BNews'09)

Hello again from Washington, DC!

I'm now going on two years working as the communications assistant for Sen. Claire McCaskill of Missouri. I still consider myself extremely lucky to have landed a job working for my home state senator.

This probably won't surprise you, but Congress can be a pretty crazy place – meaning long hours and weekends – but I haven't let it wear me out yet!

Over the past year, I've continued to travel Missouri with my boss and attend lots of events as her press liaison. My parents are amazed they get to see me more now than they did when I was at Drake. I also continue to spend lots of time staying up-to-date on the news, writing press releases, and talking with reporters. Never thought I would end up on the other side of the press world, but so far I haven't regretted the decision.



On a more personal note, I've been very fortunate to meet a great boyfriend, who's convinced me to spend much of my free time at Nationals baseball games and Virginia Tech football games.

Needless to say, I've attended more sporting events in the past year than I ever imagined I would.

Overall it's been a great year filled with both professional and personal accomplishments.

Ryan DeRoos (RTV'03)

I will be going on my 4th year working at the San Pedro Playhouse in San Antonio TX. I was recently promoted to Assistant Technical Director, and am taking a leading role in the reorganization of the Production team here.

I designed for a couple of shows this past year at the Playhouse, but one of the highlights was winning 1st place for Best Costumes in the National televised Holiday River Parade in downtown San Antonio.

In the small amount of free time I find, I am busy taking care of my dogs, fiance, enjoying our salt water fish tanks which is slowly becoming a hobby of mine, as well as wine making.

This file saved low res to reduce size.

Matt Becker (BNews'02)

I'm working at STATS LCC and living in Chicago. I am still writing game previews, feature stories, tweeting and covering games from time to time.

When I'm not working, I can usually be found at the Lincoln Park Zoo, the Museum of Science and Industry or Montrose Beach with my 14-month-old son, Thomas.

The photo shows Thomas enjoying an insideout burger from Hackney's.



Emily Brady (RTV'10)

I work in Communications and Development at the Diocese of Des Moines Office of Campus Ministry during regular business hours.

After work I have started a freelance video production company, Em C. Brady Productions.

I have been hired to edit documentaries for TerraCycle and Frito-Lay, I work on the production crew for a nationally renowned wrestling company, and most recently I have been hired to edit part of a short film and produce a featurette, interviews, and webisodes for a dance company out of New York City

Emily checks her LinkedIn account regularly.

Angie Hunt (BNews'98) reports for KCCI, Des Moines, often from the station's Ames Bureau. She's also taught some classes for Iowa State's J School.



Prof. Todd Evans' Meredith 116 office. Two-thirds of the Broadcast Boys have moved upstairs to the light. Evans checks out HD camera gear for JMC114 projects from his space.

Tiffany (Abell) Tauscheck

(BNews'01) and husband Mark just celebrated their son's first birthday.

Outside of family time, Tiffany has been spending much of her workday with national and international media in preparation for the upcoming Iowa Caucus through the Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Tiffany is thrilled that Mark, a Marquette graduate, is teaching an E-Media reporting class (JMC173) at Drake this Spring.

Jennifer Maniscalco (BNews'95) Scott Lindgren (RTV-BNews'95)

This year the Lindgren / Maniscalco family added a new member.

Simone Rosaria, she was born on Feb. 18th. Along with her sister Sofia, now 4, there is no lacking of Nat sound in the house.



Jennifer continues her role as Senior Marketing Manager at Stericycle, while also pursuing other volunteer efforts with Chicago+Acumen Fund and Gift of Adoption Fund.

Scott is taking up the entrepreneurial spirit and starting his own company, VideoFoot Productions, Inc. VideoFoot's main objective is to: Present, Preserve, and Protect your family memories for generations through multiple forms of video and film transfer.

We are also proud to say that Scott's youngest sister is now attending Drake as a business major but plans on taking some journalism classes so watch out.

Jessica (Roberts) Lown

(BNews'04) serves on SJMC National Advisory Committee, and visits advanced reporting classes to discuss her work as publicist for Iowa's Department of Public Safety.



Kelli Lawrence (RTV'89)

It's been an eventful year, if only because I can finally, officially add "author" to my business cards.



Skating on Air: The Broadcast History of an Olympic Marquee Sport was released by McFarland Publishing in May.

And yes, my many days and nights in the Meredith Hall basement surely inspired some of the subject matter... including a primer on how different TV directors have covered skating through the years.

My classmate **Kyle Martin** (now at KFJB Radio in Marshalltown, IA) got a preview copy of the book and is threatening to do an interview with me.

I'm still not used to being the subject of interviews—much more comfortable on the other side of the microphone—but luckily I got some practice over the past few months.



In other news I'm still writing B2B articles, writing and/or producing the occasional video script, and this year revisited two areas of interest for the first time in many years: studio camera work (via Cummins Inc. in Columbus, IN) and musical theater (via a community theater production of Wizard of Oz with my 8 year old daughter).

We'll have to wait and see if either endeavor turns into a long-term commitment!





Engineer Jeff Nichols resolves SJMC computer network, hardware and software issues. Nichols became E-Media's first full-time technician for fall semester 1986. Times then seemed simple!