

E-Media Holiday Newsletter 2012

NEW DIGITAL SWITCHER SERVES TV MASTER BY PROF. JOHN LYTLE, NEWSLETTER EDITOR

A Ross Carbonite digital video switcher began operating flawlessly for students who returned to Spring Semester classes. Drake authorized special funding to cover the \$47,000 project after our years-ago-donated Ampex AVC Century switcher gave up its ghost late in winter term 2011. The new switcher allows 16 inputs into two ME busses. The device provides the usual assortment of keyers and other "bells and whistles."



Ampex "resting" in the basement hallway



New Ross can do it all

ADVERTISING STUDENTS DISCOVER TV PRODUCTION By Prof. Sandy Henry (RTV'88)

Our industry continues to expand to include video delivered via the internet, cable and a growing variety of personal devices. This change has led to more students hanging out in the Meredith Hall basement. As viewing on the internet has grown, so has acceptance of advertising, meaning ad majors need a greater understanding of the video production process...not only because they may have to write for it or supervise production, but because they may need to produce some of it themselves.



Seeing the change coming, Prof. Evans and I have spent five years incorporating joint advertising/electronic media projects in our classes. In both advertising copywriting (JMC124) and advertising creative strategies (JMC141), students write TV commercials for real world clients. The students then work with Evans and the Intro and Advanced Video Production classes (JMC057 and JMC114) to produce the spots. The advertising students aren't the only ones who benefit. Evans has adapted his 57 syllabus to include field production, editing and persuasive spot writing. Evans and I have been rewarded for this collaboration with an AEJMC "Best Teaching Practices" award.

REUNION SCHEDULED

An all-majors, all-SJMC is scheduled for Relays Weekend, April 26-27. Organized by National Advisory Council (NAC) members, the event promises to include a Meredith Hall open house and an off-campus reception at Jasper Winery. If you don't receive notice in the mail, check Drake.edu/sjmc for registration and program details.

SJMC AMONG "TOP-50"

College Media Matters has placed Drake SJMC among its top 50 J schools on the strength of our campus media and publishing opportunities.

NPPA STATION OF YEAR

KCCI (TV), Des Moines, has again been named small market "Station of the Year" by the National Press Photographers Assoc. 2012 marked the fourth time in six years for top recognition, a "first" for NPPA. The station's photo staff was featured in NPPA's magazine. Drake alumni, part-timers and interns have contributed mightily to KCCI's success over the years. You'll read about many of them in the following pages. Congratulations to longtime News Director Dave Busiek and the entire Channel 8 staff.

CAVEAT

Most of the alumni notes remain in the form you submitted, with an occasional edit for brevity or a typo. Apologies for bugs I missed or created. If you'd like to edit this project in November 2013, let us know!

Please do keep us posted on professional and personal changes. Our students love the opportunity to contact real world E-Media alumni.

Happy Holidays, All.

FINAL CUT PRO VS. ?? BY DAVID WRIGHT, ASSOCIATE DEAN

We've invested six months deciding which direction to go with our video editing software. After Apple sent a shot into left field with Final Cut Pro X, we decided to explore alternatives. We've been testing Avid Media Composer, Adobe Premiere and Final Cut Pro X since summer. In addition, many alumni have provided insight and insistence that we consider one system or another.

We were put in this predicament when Apple



redesigned Final Cut in a way that basically forgets its genetic code in linear editing. This provides both advantages and challenges in the fact that some of the limitations of non-linear are erased, but the learning

challenges are daunting. Sandy Henry, James McNab, Jeff Nichols, David Wright, John Lytle and Todd Evans all weighed in. After much deliberation, we have decided to integrate Adobe Premiere with a taste of After Effects beginning in spring 2013, while keeping a limited presence in Avid Media Composer and Final Cut Pro X. This offers us the advantages of leveraging our already extensive Adobe Creative Suite investment, while providing the opportunity for faculty and students to learn multiple non-linear editing platforms. Hopefully this approach provides the best of several worlds, while allowing us to continue teaching content as king. It's a new journey for all of us and we'll provide updates along the way. Thank you all for your passionate participation in the discussion, and please have patience if we chose a route different from what you expected. Come by sometime and see us learning in the Digital Palace!

CAUCUSES = INTERNSHIPS

Many Electronic Media students took advantage of the opportunity to work for major networks during Iowa's January Caucuses. For example, CBS News hired two "runners" for their radio network. CBS paid \$10 an hour for several days' of work.

BLOOD, SWEAT, WHEELS

The JMC114-produced their long format, non-fiction sports documentary during fall 2011. It received First-Place recognition from the Upper Midwest Chapter, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences in April.

We processed all photos for this newsletter at 72 dpi. They'll look terrible in print.

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DR. WADE'S REMARKABLE RETIREMENT ADVENTURE

For the first time in 30 years, I didn't teach a class this fall. I phased retirement a few years ago and have been teaching an FYS each fall. Last year while Prof. Wright was gallivanting around Europe, I taught J-30. That was an experience. Probably my last class, however, as I turned in my Drake keys this summer after 24 years!

I just finished my 19th racing season at Prairie Meadows, doing slo-mo replays and some camera. Drake RTV grads **Ryan Dunn (RTV'00)** and **George Yeager (RTV'01)** continue to run the operation.

I'm Education Committee chair for the Nebraska-Iowa District of Kiwanis and currently developing 30 "break-out" sessions, ready to educate/entertain 1,000 Kiwanians in Council Bluffs in February. I also continue to do my public address announcing for Iowa State men's basketball. I do a considerable amount of "free" reading, which is great!

My health problems include five blockages in three remaining heart blood vessels.



We go to Florida, 3-4 times a year (headed there for Christmas). My 3-year old granddaughter is the greatest! We stay in a hotel so that she can swim in the river (hotel pool) with papa (me) for 3-4 hours at a time. Thankfully, she looks like her mother (**Kira Wade Houge – RTV/PR'03**), but sadly is a story teller like her grandfather! Her father discourages her eating sweets, so I'm sending a picture from a day when the parents went out of town. It started at Dunkin' Donuts and ended at Steak & SHAKE!!! Retirement is okay. I enjoy picking up and going

whenever I want, but I miss regular schedules and my great colleagues, Lytle, Evans & Wright. But most of all, I miss you guys and new, challenging students each fall.

94-1 SPORTS ACTIVE

BY RYNE NIETERT, SPORTS DIRECTOR

The Dog had another eventful fall semester and is looking forward to a bigger spring. We covered Drake home football and Roosevelt high school home and away. Drake won its second consecutive Pioneer Football League championship.



This spring we broadcast men's and women's home basketball games. The men are led by preseason all-conference member Ben Simons. Fans expect more firepower from the return of big man Seth Van Deest. Our radio team will cover 11 games and hope to broadcast the conference tournament in St. Louis. The Women's team welcomes first-time head coach and former Hawkeye standout Jenny Baranczyk. She played at Iowa for Lisa Bluder, Drake's coach from 1991-2000. Guard Kyndal Clark leads Drake with 13.5 points per game. Catch the live coverage on 94.1 or on the Web at 941thedog.com and look for updates on twitter @941TheDog and liking our Facebook page, Drake Broadcasting Systems.

DAISES TOUR E-MEDIA



Eight first-graders from Ankeny enjoyed a tour of the E-Media facilities during April and then visited Cowles Library, a dorm and Olmsted Center, where they enjoyed pizza. Organizers said the members of Troop 245 wanted to see a college campus. 94-1 student staff coordinated our part of the event. Are we having fun yet?

BEST STUDENT NEWSCAST

E-Media's capstone newscast DrakeLINE was named Best Student Newscast for 2011 by the Iowa Broadcast News Assoc. The program produced by Jessica Nguyen during Spring 2011 was cited for its graphics, strong writing and good production values. A fancy plaque was presented during IBNA's May 2012 convention. BNews students again won several First-Place IBNA awards for their 4-minute "Issue" segments produced during fall 2011 in the Radio News class.

STUDIO 100 ACTIVE

A 30-minute news magazine consisting of stories produced during Fall Semester by students in JMC100 Field Photography hit the cable and Web Dec. 5. Seven class members selected their best stories from among eight they each produced.



Class members handled all the producing responsibilities while directing and technical functions were managed by students drawn from JMC57 and JMC114. Check out Vimeo.com/54957760

MCL PROGRAM REVIVED

SJMC's Master's in Communication Leadership (MCL) program is enjoying a resurgence this academic year with a new cohort of students beginning their studies. The 36-semester hour MCL serves working media professionals. It draws classes from SJMC and Drake's College of Business, typically requiring two years to complete. Applications to join the fall 2013 class are due March 1. Visit SJMC's Web site for details.

KRAGIE NEWELL STUDIO

SJMC Engineer Jeff Nichols is working through winter break to complete installation of our 94-1 "remote" studio in the multimedia lab on Meredith's first floor.



The facility will initially be used by our more experienced board operators. E-Media beginners in their required JMC67 radio class will continue working from the basement studio, where distractions are fewer. Control functions from the new studio are routed through the basement audio board and automation system.

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DAVID WRIGHT ENJOYS SABBATICAL TRAVEL

Associate Dean David Wright took his second sabbatical during 2011-12. He and his wife, Kathi Sircy, travelled through 16 countries including most of Western Europe, El Salvador, Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. One highlight was Christmas in Israel with their three children. They travelled through many parts of Israel including the Dead Sea, Haifa, the Sea of Galilee, and as pictured, the heart of Jerusalem. Kaitlyn (Cornell College'09), **Briana (RTV'12)**, and **Arthur (RTV'14)** enjoyed time at the Wailing Wall in Old Jerusalem. In addition to discovering and enjoying food and drinks across the world, Wright studied the use of mass media by high school and college age students. His findings include the fact that most of the group gets all their news from social media. Many of them, in both developing and first world countries do not consume mass media on a typical day. Wright and his wife also had the opportunity to spend time with Marcos, a young man they have sponsored for 8 years in El Salvador. Wright is back to his usual antics this fall including spearheading recruiting efforts across the country. He ran into Kevin Burns who is now a high school journalism teacher in Texas at the JEA convention in San Antonio this fall. Kevin still looks like he could play football for Drake.





BUSIEK AT SJMC WEEK



Long-time KCCI News Director Dave Busiek joined students from several E-Media classes to offer tips on interview preparation and job skills required in television news. Busiek's appearance was scheduled by JMC173 Television Reporting adjunct Mark Tauscheck as part of April's SJMC Week.



6 YEARS & COUNTING

Drake-licensed KDRA-LP is wrapping up its first six years of service to the campus and community. License renewal procedures have



been underway since Aug. 1. Renewal for all Iowa radio stations is scheduled to occur Feb. 1, 2013. FCC filing these days is accomplished via Internet. The FM sta-

tion operates from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. weekdays and all day Saturday. KGVC-LP from Grand View College controls the remaining time.



Our announcers, whether in required classes or as Drake Broadcasting System volunteers, continue to be amazed at the listener feedback they receive. We live-stream the station 24/7 with Shoutcast.

Alumni

Andrea (Fryrear) Davidson (BNews'90) I retired from the TV news business a few years ago. I am currently the Director of Client Services for Summit Pathology in Loveland, Colorado. My experiences in the news business prepared me well for this next phase in life.

Erin Collier (RTV'02) recently joined Clear Channel Media + Entertainment as a vice president on the integrated media and marketing team in Los Angeles. She, her wife Brooke, and their daughter Scout, are really enjoying California and being closer to their west coast family.



Chuck Reed (RTV'85)

Continue to work for the American Cancer Society in Des Moines as the Public Relations Manager, Iowa. Continue to work for the Iowa High School Sports Network with their broadcasts of the state championships in football and basketball. Became the play-by-play broadcaster for Drake football this fall. I also broadcast Drake women's basketball last winter, but am no longer doing that. I continue to shoot high school football for MyABC5's Friday Night Blitz and fill-in on various sports shows on Clear Channel Radio in Des Moines (WHO and KxNO, mainly) I live in West Des Moines with my wife, Sheryl (19 years and counting), daughters Elizabeth, 16, Ellen, 14, and our dog Biscuit (unsure of Biscuit's age).

Sarah (Reinwald) Guldalian (BNews'03) is

in her eighth year producing and managing for International media-outreach organization Lutheran Hour Ministries. Guldalian creates and produces media and multi-media events in the US and Canada. Her two programs target 14-18 and 35-55 audiences. She and husband Justin (FA 05) welcomed daughter Madison Laine Guldalian in November, making three-year-old Zane a big brother.

Bob Gillies (BNews'89)

I look forward to bringing son Coburn to campus soon. I've been at Parkside 5 years in January. Some clients say I'm making a difference. I know that Drake made a difference. Tell classmate Fr. Ray Atwood, "Hi." Lex Leifheit (BFA'98) remains executive director of SOMArts in San Francisco, which



expanded its live broadcasts to a total of five this year through the Neighborhood News Network, a program of public access television. She continues to publish articles on leadership, her most recent article "Maker's Mark" How

"Doing" Shapes Thinking About Work, was published by Arts for LA and ArtJob. Lex and her husband Daniel McKinley are expecting a baby boy in January 2013.

Tricia (Polhert) Hoffman (BNews'98)

I returned to my B News background today when my team shot a commercial to air on Fox News for our real estate team. It was a lot of fun! In other news, I was chosen as one of D Magazine's Best Real Estate Agents in DFW for the second straight year. It's a huge honor that only 1.2% of agents in Dallas/Fort Worth receive. I am on track to have my best year ever so I am very fortunate for that. I have three kids. Trinity is in second grade, Beckett is 3 and Keane is 18 months. David and I have been married 10 years and celebrated with a wonderful trip to wine country.



Heidi Ritt (BNews'11)

Since I participated in the 3+3 Journalism/ Law program, I am in my last year of Drake law school. I have had internships with the Law Offices of Nelson David Blocher and Red Frogs Events, both based in Chicago, IL. Upon graduating from law school, I plan to move back to Illinois and take the bar exam. My areas of interest include elder law, entertainment/ media law, and sports law.

Robyn (Viloria) Weins (BNews'99)

I am a 2nd year assistant principal at public middle school outside of Seattle, WA. My school was considered in the bottom 5% of public middle schools in Washington and I was hired to be on the administrative team to turn things around in 3 years. Our school discipline and test scores have improved dramatically (we're no longer in the bottom 5% and it is exciting to be intellectually challenged everyday (although it is quite exhausting). I also finished my doctorate in education leadership and policy studies in June 2012 at the University of Washington -- so now I go by Dr. Wiens at school. My husband and I have a 2-year-old daughter and Baby Wiens #2 is scheduled to arrive in March 2013. While I no longer work in the journalism field -- I use many of the skills in my daily work. I apply my writing and preproduction skills to everything from crafting all staff emails, writing grant proposals, doing the morning announcements, crafting communication plans for special events, coordinating special events and developing visual aids to support students.

Tony Lorino (RTV'03)

Kate (Vasconcellos, AS'05) and I are enjoying married life and hanging with our 2-year-old labradoodle, Max. Professionally speaking, she's now in her third year of residency at KU Medical Center and loving every minute of it. (Well, maybe not the 24-hour call schedule - but the rest of it!) On my end, our team has been working hard to build our station, and I'm happy to report we've become a top-5 performer in our core demos since I stepped in as program director around this time last year. It's been a lot of hard work -- and now -- it's great to see it paying off! I also had the unique opportunity to be a part of something incredibly cool earlier this fall; on a whim, I went to a casting call looking for Green Bay Packers fans in Kansas City. I didn't think much of it at the time, but apparently I looked the part of a "typical Wisconsinite," because they actually CAST me in the role for a national Gillette commercial, featuring Packers star Clay Matthews! It's not quite 15 seconds of fame (maybe 15 frames), but it's been running all over Fox, ESPN, AMC, Spike TV and other networks this fall. We radio guys can cut it on TV after all when all we have to do is wear Packers gear and tilt our heads! That's me, on the left.



Denise (Mock) Nazzaro (BNews'01) I do Communications for the American Red Cross, Greater St. Louis Region. From the daily work to during disaster time, every day is a new adventure, and I love every minute of it!

Kristen (Foster) Fink (BNews'06)

Greetings from Falls Church, VA! We survived Hurricane Sandy with little impact, and feel very lucky about that! The worst problem for us was that the dog didn't want to go out in the rain! It has been another year of change as Chris and I came back to the US from Honduras in June, spent a few weeks in Iowa, and then moved to the east coast while my husband trains for his new job with the Department of State. We found out in August that we will be moving to Vladivostok, Russia, in December or January for a two-year post! I am spending 40 hours a week (!) learning Russian and hope to find a teaching job at a Russian school or a part-time position at the US Consul-General. We are still keeping up our blog, www.teguciwhat.com! Vlad is a coastal city on the far southeastern side of the country, farther away from Moscow than Moscow is from Washington DC. We'll probably get to Japan and China more often than Europe!



Martha Chaput and John Olson (RTV'04) John is working as a Producer/Editor - commonly referred to in LA as a PREDITOR (insert joke here) for NBC Universal. He's also taking writing classes at Second City.



Martha is a Line Producer at Original Media, a film and television Production Company. The highlight of 2012 for us was attending the Oscars - we hope to make that an annual event :)

Neil Rubenstein (RTV'81)

The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory tackles some of the most critical challenges for our Nation's defense and space science. Major projects that we've produced in support of the Lab's efforts included the Messenger spacecraft orbit insertion to the

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planet Mercury. We produced a 75-minute live webcast picked up by NASA-TV. We had over 100k individual HD streams on our direct feed, and were mentioned below the fold on the front page of the New York Times. View the webcast jhuapl.edu/messenger/mer_orbit.html. YouTube.com/user/jhuapl offers everything from standups with PowerPoint to our high-end 3-D animation of multiple space missions.



The launch coverage of the RBSP-Radiation Belt Storm Probes (Van Allen Probes) from Kennedy Space Center was another big project. Two of my staff spent May thru September in Florida documenting the final prep, test and launch of these twin spacecraft that will provide vital science about the radiation belt surrounding the Earth. http://rbsp.jhuapl.edu/

Molly Nelson (BNews/RTV'03)

After almost 9 years in TV news I hung up my reporter's notebook. This summer I said good-bye to my most recent gig as a morning reporter for KCCI and took on Marketing and Public Relations at Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC). I enjoy learning about the PR side of things and not having to get up at 3:15 a.m. I work part-time so I get to spend more time running around with my almost 3 year old son and my husband, Kole Petersen. The picture is from the Drake booth at the Iowa State Fair. We were trying to get a shot of his Drake tattoo!



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

Brittany Weiss (BNews'09)

I left the anchor desk at WXVT and began work at WBRZ in August 2012. The move from Mississippi to Louisiana was refreshing and rewarding. I'm very happy living in Baton Rouge as a reporter covering news in a capitol city. I survived my second hurricane in the last year; Irene was nothing compared to the devastation that came from Isaac. Even better, I was there reporting in the middle of all the mayhem! I can't wait to learn more about this colorful Cajun culture.



Sarah (Driever) Klenz (BNews'06)

I have graduated law school with an emphasis in low-income advocacy and health law. After practicing as a public defender in Minnesota, I transitioned to non-profit law and management. I advise two non-profits and several non-profit boards and I'm the director of Planning and Development at Western Dairyland Community Action Agency. I use my experience from Broadcast Journalism daily, but mostly in the venue of public speaking.



I was called to testify before the Senate and the Ways and Means subcommittee on Health concerning disability rights and the health parity legislation, so that was really exciting.

Emily Brady (RTV'10)

While I continue my full time job in communications here in Des Moines, my freelance video requests have skyrocketed this year. Most notably I have worked with the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment), Crossfit and Aspen Athletics. I've been able to work remotely as well as traveling around the Midwest, filming, directing and editing as my schedule permits. And I still get to travel to Omaha to visit my best friend and classmate, Kelsi (Roberts) Simpson.

Tisleen Singh (RTV'10)

I work in Admissions at Drake and really love it. It's great seeing our favorite professors all the time and working with them during our recruiting process. The travel is getting tough (my car finally got towed downtown Chicago) but I'm definitely becoming a road warrior. This summer I got involved with the Obama campaign and also started my masters.



I'm once again a Drake student and completing my master in Higher Education and Leadership. It's been amazing to get back into the classroom. It's a great program and it's been rejuvenating meeting new people and learning from different experiences! I hope to see you all at the SJMC Relays reunion!

Shawn Brend (RTV'07)

I've worked for a third-party administrator called Sedgwick for the last two years as a general liability claims adjuster. The client that my office works with is the national grocery chain Kroger. My fiancé is a social worker and we plan to get married in March. We currently reside in the Beaverdale part of Des Moines.



Tony Tracy (BNews'10)

My fiancee Hannah (LPS '11) and I are in our second year of Law School at Creighton University. We have enjoyed our time so far, but are ready to be done with school! This Summer I clerked for Judge Douglas Johnson, for the Separate Juvenile Court of Douglas County, Nebraska. It was a rewarding and challenging experience. When Hannah is not tutoring me, she spends some of her free time as a Contracts Tutor at school for the first year students. I recently began volunteering my time as a YMCA Coach for a 1st Grade Boys Basketball team in the area. Volunteering as a coach has been much more fun than the sometimes

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difficult subject matter of Juvenile court cases. My Boys are 1 and 1 on the season. Recently, Hannah and I welcomed a new member to our family. Harvey is a 6-month-old Goldendoodle, who is now closing in on 50 pounds. He has been a constant source of energy and excitement in our lives outside of the law school! Also, Hannah and I recently competed in a Moot Court competition at school. While we did not win, I was recognized by a panel of judges as an "Outstanding Oralist." I think that the Broadcasting program at Drake deserves a lot of credit for helping me to develop my voice, delivery and speaking style.

Laura (Colaizy) Frederixon (BNews'03)

The biggest change for me in 2012 is that I got married, Sept. 1. Career-wise I remain with Syngenta after 7 and-a-half years. I did take on a new role, switching to our licensing division, GreenLeaf Genetics, where I am responsible for the billing processes. I never saw myself on the accounting/finance side of things but I enjoy it. I definitely plan on going back for my MBA as the business world does interest me.



Zach Tecklenburg (BNews'09)

I've been working at KSHB-TV, the NBC affiliate in Kansas City, for just a little more than a year. I am a multimedia journalist, so sometimes I have a photographer and sometimes I don't. I actually like shooting for myself (most days), especially since I'm only doing one story a day. There's really nothing else wild and exciting to report, just hoping for another mild winter.



Typos or errors? We hope not!

Sharyljit Kaur (BNews'12)

I'm the new assistant editor of Penang (Malasia) Monthly Magazine. I know, its not radio or TV, but I haven't given up on that! I figured instead of just sitting around and waiting for a job to come along, I might as well get some experience. So I interviewed for the position and started October 26th. It's a small team, people seem nice but a little complacent so am trying to shake things up and get the magazine branch out; am pushing to add a podcast section to the website and do some video interviews for the website too.

Clay Paciorek (RTV'10)

I am living in Baltimore and working in the Athletic Department at Loyola University. I was just recently promoted to assistant director for Athletic Communications. I produce all of the video content for the sports teams at Loyola. This year was an exciting one as the men's lacrosse team won the national championship and the men's basketball team made the NCAA tournament. Even more exciting news, I got engaged this summer to Ellie Ritscher (Drake'11). That's me in action in the photo background.



Anne O'Roake (RTV'94)

I started a new job this year as an instructional multimedia developer at the University of South Florida's College of Public Health in Tampa. Our center does online and face-toface training for public health professionals in Florida and the Caribbean. In December, I will finish my master's degree in Instructional Technology at USF.

SJMC graduates **Emily Hajduk (BNews'07)** and Ian Matthews recently launched their Internet company CityFit.com, a fitness directory that connects individuals with local fitness businesses and events in the Chicago area.

J.C. Crane (BNews'89)

I hope everything is going well for you! I don't have anything new this year. Please keep me on the list for next year. Founder/executive vice president of Crane Enterprises, Inc.

Ellie Bastian (RTV'10)

For three months this spring I traveled around rural Russian alone as part of a Fulbright research grant, documenting life in rural Russia. The end product is a photo essay rather than the anticipated documentary film, but it taught me a lot about challenges facing video work abroad in isolated areas. Then I returned home and worked at the Sturgis motorcycle rally before taking off on a three-month road trip around the perimeter of the continental U.S. with my sister. Am planning to move to Montana or D.C. for the New Year and continue to pursue video-related projects.

Sarah (Stokes) Herzog (BNews'00) is starting her 7th year at WEAU 13 News in Eau Claire, WI. She's been promoted to 5 and 6 p.m. anchor in addition to 10 p.m.



Sarah co-anchors with her husband and they just welcomed another child. Their baby girl was born August 30. Sarah happily started a charity for foster children in Western Wisconsin this year and raised thousands of dollars at her first event this summer. She blogs about her adventures in motherhood.

Jack Doles (RTV'86)

I'm in my 23rd year at WOOD-TV (NBC) Grand Rapids. It's been a pretty good year. Thanks to the Tigers I had the chance to cover another World Series. Thanks to NBC and our proximity to Indianapolis I had a chance to cover my first Super Bowl. (Still waiting for the Detroit Lions to make it there.) Thanks to Michigan State I had the chance to cover the first Big Ten Championship game and another NCAA basketball tournament. Still loving the job. Thanks to Drake for making it all possible.



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Megan Stotmeister (BNews'08)

New York City continues to be an incredible place to develop my career in media. After more than three years in magazine digital media at Hearst Corporation, I made the switch to e-commerce in mid-2011 and joined the team at DailyCandy, an NBCU-owned digital media company focused on fashion, food and fun in eleven cities across the country. I'm currently an account manager and production coordinator, handling everything from website programming and email building to editorial copy writing to client relationships. Our recently adopted pup, Toby, joins me at work most days and now holds the title as DailyCandy's official office dog.

Kevin Waetke (RTV/BNews'86, MA'93)

is currently leads communications for Aviva USA, the U.S. life insurance and annuity platform of London-based Aviva plc. He's been working from Aviva USA's West Des Moines US operations headquarters since 2010, and is responsible for national and trade media relations, issues and reputation management, and other assorted duties. Kevin gets back to Drake regularly as a guest speaker in PR Principles classes, and also as the professional liaison to Drake's Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter. Kevin lives in Johnston with his wife, Kelly, and their four children. Connect with Kevin via Facebook, LinkedIn or kmwaetke@msn.com.



Renee (Van Amber) Whisnant (BNews'97) lives in the Twin Cities and works part time at Media Minefield as a video and messaging specialist. She loves this job because it blends skills honed in her earlier TV and PR days – shooting and editing video, writing and editing articles and website text, working with clients – it's the perfect fit. Renee works with fellow alum **Andrea (Froehlich) McMaster**, which is a bonus. To her dismay, Renee recently realized that she was as thrilled as a 5-year-old on Christmas morning to receive the latest AP Stylebook.

SJMC's Web site is quite exciting: sjmc.oit.drake.edu/

Aaron Gernes (BNews'11)

I'm in my second year at KNIA/KRLS in Knoxville/Pella, IA, where I serve as the Knoxville news director. Our station covers Marion County, which has a population of about 32,000. Our area south of the Des Moines River includes Knoxville, Pleasantville, the small towns of Melcher-Dallas, Bussey, and many other villages and unincorporated areas. Working in a small town continues to be fascinating. For example, we produced a program about how the now-tiny community of Swan saved the Ringling Brothers Circus in the 1880s by giving them enough money to continue their tour. I continue to meet and cultivate relationships everyday and radio continues to be fun and challenging. I'm lucky enough to be close to many of my friends in Des Moines, but would recommend to any new graduate that they shouldn't be afraid of working in an area that seems small. All that matters are the people of the community.

Adam Davis (RTV'06)



This past year at Marvel Studios was a busy with the release of *The Avengers*, which became the 3rd highest-grossing movie of all time. In my role as Promotions Project Manager, I oversaw campaigns for Acura, Red Baron, Harley-Davidson and Target, among others. I also produced the TV spots on the Marvel side for Red Baron and Target, the latter being an intense amount of fun working to get Avengers costumes replicated and shrunk down for our kid actors. Now the big focus is on Iron Man 3, which opens in May. It's been great being able to work my way up in this company and it shocks me to realize that I'll have been here 4 years this January.

Amy Schmelzer (RTV'96, MA'10)

I'm the senior director at KCCI. I managed to survive a near catastrophic Caucus night full of technical issues with our returns system only to come in the next day and find out that due to a staffing realignment with the production department. I now report to the newsroom and supervise 15 people under two managers. I'm sure it's no shock to anyone I retain my previous duties. Amy serves on SJMC's National Advisory Council.

Erin (Moody) Kiernan (BNews'96)

Things at Channel 13 are fantastic. I'm anchoring the 5, 6 and 10 and reporting whenever something catches my interest. In September our 5 o'clock show won a Midwest Regional Emmy for best newscast. In October I traveled to NYC with photojournalists Brandon McCauley and Randy Schumacher to accept a National Edward R. Murrow Award for our feature story "Sky Rise." In the story we followed Mark Block as he climbed Sears Tower in Chicago. He's an Iowan who survived two traumatic brain injuries and was never supposed to walk again. At the end of October my husband, Michael, and I celebrated our 11th anniversary.



Finally, we're saying "goodbye" to John Bachman after 25 years anchoring at WHO-TV. Dan Winters will join me at 6 and 10.

Katherine Hing (BNews'93)

I have been working in Shanghai and studying the Chinese market for almost 9 years. Being able to have first-hand contact with Chinese companies and to advise them on brand building has given me some very important insights. China domestic companies have accumulated some very heavy "historical baggage" largely due to a highly controlled state system. It has yet to migrate to a more transparent, globally acceptable free market economic system. So advising clients to start a small outfit in Hong Kong or Singapore offers a chance for them to start afresh, to do things in a more systematic way and be a socially responsible company. Recently I had a chance to help a Chinese client build his company from scratch. China is like a European Union, so going to another province is like going to a new European city. I travel between Singapore and Shanghai, helping clients from Singapore build their brands in China.

Tiffany (Abell) Tauscheck (BNews'01)

serves the Greater Des Moines Convention & Visitors Bureau as vice president of marketing and development. The Des Moines Register's lifestyle magazine Juice named Tauscheck their Young Professional of 2011, beating out four other finalists. Husband Mark taught the junior-level J173 Broadcast Reporting class during Spring Semester. He was outstanding.

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Sara Van Aernum (BNews'01)

After 8 years as Senior Producer with Fox5 Morning News in DC, I jumped ship with my longtime anchor to become the Executive Producer of Good Morning Washington. I love the new challenge. I continue to travel in my "spare time". In the last year I've been to Minnesota countless times. I've also relaxed in Mexico, saw the sights in Rome, ran a half marathon in Orlando, went to the Grammy Awards in LA, skied in Utah, and drove the Pacific Coast Highway from San Diego to San Francisco. I'm looking forward to all that 2013 has in store.

Abbie Hamilton (RTV'09)

During July I celebrated my three-year anniversary as a production coordinator at One at Optimus in Chicago. This year we worked on a video for the Bo Jackson's "Give Me a Chance" Foundation, where we interviewed Bo himself, along with foundation volunteers and child participants. I also worked on my longest shoot this year – 12 locations in six shoot days for a US Bank campaign. **Eric (Michel, RTV'08)** spent the past summer in Washington DC working for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. He is in the middle of his final year of law school and he published a paper in his school's law review on the constitutionality of recent state environmental regulations.



Kelly Nass (BNews'99)

I'm enjoying my 2nd season as the production coordinator for the CW's "Hart of Dixie," where we turn the Warner Brother's back lot in Burbank into the small (fake) town of Bluebell, Alabama. It's no Hawaii, but it will do. :) I rescued a pug from South Korea in February through Happy Angels Dog Rescue. I recently agreed to foster another pug from South Korea!



Adam Ghassemi (BNews'04)

Crystal and I welcomed Carson Adam Ghassemi on June 24th, my 30th birthday. What a present! Carson is truly a blessing. He even has his own Drake Bulldog onesie. I'm reporting and anchoring for WTVF-TV, which dominates Nashville ratings. We are also one of the strongest CBS affiliates in the country. I work with some amazing photojournalists in a shop that truly values storytelling.



Crystal took some time off to carry and deliver Carson, but just went back to work for Goodlettsville, Tenn.-based Dollar General where she serves as Public Relations Manager for the entire country. It's an amazing gig! Carson gets to go to work with her and stay at the on-site day care. This year has taught us a very important lesson: regardless of life's constant challenges, there is always something just around the corner that deserves great thanks. You just may not know what it is yet. Adam serves on SJMC's National Advisory Council.

Ciera Lundgren (BNews'12)

After my internship with CBS News in Washington, DC, and graduating, I started working at WHO-HD as the producer for Today in Iowa Saturday and Sunday. Besides working weekends, I help produce other shows throughout the week. I feel very fortunate and blessed to have found a job right out of college, and I thank my advisors for that. I work with an amazing team and I am always learning something new. The weekend shows are a lot of fun because I get to schedule an array of segments from adopting new pets, to learning how to cook, to interviewing actors at the Civic Center, and then talking to athletes from the Des Moines Barnstormers. Before I took this job I didn't consider myself a coffee drinker, but now I can't see myself without the caffeine fix.

Anamarie Rebori (BNews'09) won a new term as communications assistant with the re-election of U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill of Missouri.

Ann (Kaatz) LoBue (RTV'97), NBCUniversal IT director of Client Services, focused on supporting the cable networks within NBCU. Earlier this year, Van Harden (RTV'73) celebrated his 25th anniversary as the program director of WHO and KXnO Radio in Des Moines, and morning show personality on WHO. Also this year, WHO won two more Marconi Awards, radio's version of the Academy Awards, from the National Association of Broadcasters. Under Van's leadership, WHO Radio has won 13 Marconi Awards, more than any other station in the country, five of which he has won personally for his morning show.



Nearly every fall semester, Van hosts the Radio News class for a tour of Clear Channel's Des Moines facilities followed by discussion about opportunities and challenges in radio.

David Mossner (BNews'84) is development director in the Oakwood Foundation in Madison, Wis. The Foundation serves the second largest continuing care retirement community in the state as well as aging adults in southcentral Wisconsin. David & Rhonda have two sons - Matthew was married in October while Mark is graduating from Ball State next spring as a finance/risk management major.



Lee Konfrst (RTV'96, LW '06)

In the biggest Hitchcockian twist of my life, I am actually thoroughly enjoying the third year of my insurance career at Nationwide. I've learned to become an intensely defensive driver as a result of filing countless auto claims in arbitration on behalf of our members and being exposed to mind-numbingly appalling decisions drivers make while operating their machines of death. Admittedly I often step back and enviously admire my wife's career at Iowa Public Television while reminiscing about my own truncated broadcast career. Jennifer Glover Konfrst and Big Bird pa-

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tiently await your financial pledge. I sit in awe of my 12-year-old daughter Ellie and her natural ability to create and edit videos on the Macbook while I secretly tsk-tsk about the lost art of splicing. And I am quite anxious for my 10-year-old son James' inevitable sports broadcasting career after his completed tenures in the MLB, NFL, and NBA. I fully expect him to make the call when the Cubs finally win it all.

Mark Carlson (BNews'10)

I serve as the Iowa City bureau reporter for KCRG-TV in Cedar Rapids. This past October I entered my third year in that role. Highlights of the last year include a regional Emmy nomination in the Military Single Story category and three Iowa Broadcast News Association awards. I also enjoyed two trips to California to cover the restoration of the USS Iowa's transformation into a battleship museum.



I enjoy my job and learn new things everyday. I'm not sure what the next year holds, but I continue to believe broadcast journalism has been a good choice, and I plan to continue pursing my goals in this field.

Bryan Hall (BNews'03)

I recently passed my board exam and will soon become a full-fledged, independently licensed counselor. I'm working full-time for Iowa Health Des Moines as a mental health therapist and I'm now in the dissertation phase of a PhD in psychology at Capella University. Most importantly Mrs. Hall and our three sons, ages 9, 5, & 2, are healthy and doing well. I can send you a family pic soon if you're interested ... I think you'll find we clean up well!



Geoff Greenwood (BNews'88), publicist for the Iowa Attorney General's office.

Andrea (Froehlich) McMaster (BNews'98) helped launch a media relations/communications firm in Minneapolis called Media Minefield (media-minefield.com). It's the perfect job outside of TV news and the job gives me more time with our growing family (we now have 3 girls). Our company also employs Drake alum Renee (Van Amber) Whisnant. Media Minefield has grown from representing a handful of clients last year to more than 200 clients this year. Our clients range from nonprofits and ministries to a theatre production company and financial professionals.

Lindsay Reinert (RTV'04)

Greetings from Denver! I recently accepted a job offer as promotions director for Hot AC station Alice 105.9 (KALC-FM). It was quite a change to leave Des Moines after working for the Des Moines Radio Group five years, but so far I love it! If you're a Drake Grad who lives in the area or if you're a current RTVP student looking for summer internships or part-time work, reach out!



Jenna DeLong (BNews'11)

I reside in Texas, where I am the head Women's Cross Country coach and the assistant softball coach at The University of Texas - Dallas. I am working on getting my master's in kinesiology from Texas Women's College in hopes of someday becoming an AD at a university or a head softball coach at the D1 level. Although I am not practicing journalism, I use the many lessons I learned about writing. I returned to Holland in August to defend my gold medal with the Tex Town Tigers. The European Cup of softball was held in my "home" town of Enschede, The Netherlands, and as the host team we ended up getting a shiny bronze.



John Walters (RTV'84)

I'm enjoying my new job as director of broadcasting for Cyclones.tv, Iowa State's new digital network. We carry several live events and I also do quite of bit of reporting for our on-demand content. It allows me to continue what I enjoy most, calling the play-by-play for Iowa State football and men's basketball, while getting home at a reasonable hour most nights. (Walters has been recognized three times as Iowa Sportscaster of the year.)



Barbara Kao (BNews'03)

After managing the Year End Party for the company in February (yes, our year ends according to the Chinese calendar and it's usually between Jan.- Feb.) immediately went to Expo "Gulfood" in Dubai.



In April, I take a year off from the company and now enjoy my student life in Mexico. I will return back to Taiwan next March, and hopefully, after this year I can restart not only in my career, also have some good new plans in my life.

Matt Becker (BNews'02)

I started a new position at STATS in October. I edit our previews – big surprise – and construct our headline packages for our clients – most notably, Yahoo! One of the more unique aspects of our STATS editorial department in Northbrook, Ill., is we also create the headlines for the Dow Jones ticker in Times Square. So, there's a chance that message scrolling around New York was written by a Drake grad sitting in his condo on Chicago's North Side. And if you happen to notice a typo in the headline, it's probably because one of my two boys distracted me. Thomas, who's 2, became a big brother to David on May 7.

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Kurt Van Auken (RTV'00)



For 12 years I have been the Morning Show Producer & on-air talent on Big Ken & Colleen in the Morning on Star 102.5 in Des Moines. Highlights this year included interviewing President Obama and developing the amazing character Honey Booze Booze.

In fall 2002, Dave Zawilinski (RTV'05)

joined the WOI Sports staff as an intern. This summer he took over for "The Godfather" John Walters who left his sports director's post for Iowa State University after 16 years. Dave says he is more than thankful for the opportunity, especially at such a young age. He's happy to keep the position in the Drake family. Dave lives with his wife, Kaelin, in Windsor Heights.



Dave Z has become the designated "tour director" when J100 classes visit ABC5.

Brooke Lurvey (RTV'09)

I am currently living in Omaha and working for Election Systems & Software. We probably designed the ballots you voted on for the general election. I have worked there for a little over a year, and as you can imagine, this past year has been just a little chaotic. I'm an account representative for the Election Services department, so I spend my day communicating with counties and states making sure that there ballot is set up correctly. I also have been traveling quite a bit the past year and working as a Support Person on election day all over the country in places like New York City, South Padre Island, and even Montana!

Linda Shelton (BNews'82) is Internal Communications Manager for Tufts Medical Center in Boston.

Jess Hoffert (BNews'11)

Just wanted to give you a quick update about my 15 months (already?) at Midwest Living magazine. We launched our new YouTube page with videos I've produced over the last couple months: youtube.com/user/midwestliving/featured. We're still in the early phase of populating the page with videos. The 60-Second Tours and One-Minute Inspirations are ideas that I helped create. They're super easy to put together (just some still photography with Ken Burns effect and music) and we decided to create those first to help populate the page since I can usually create two of those in a day. We'll be adding a lot more videos to "Places We Love" and the other categories in the near future. Perhaps my favorite video to edit was the "On the Road" segment with the turtles. In addition to all this video work, I'm doing a lot of research for upcoming travel stories and also doing the painstaking but necessary work of fact checking. The great thing is that I work with a wonderful staff, and despite not having benefits, I'm very grateful for where I'm at, and consider myself lucky to have joined the team at a time when they were looking for someone with even the remotest sense of video expertise.

Abraham Swee (BNews'11)

I worked at the Guthrie Theatre most of 2011 as an actor, but started a journalism search again. I'm taking over Jaime Thies' (BNews'10) weekend producer position at ABC 5. She's promoted to weekday.





Ellen Roos (RTV'12)

Although I am sad that (the week of Nov. 26) is my last week with Tree Trust, I am very excited to start my next chapter as the Interactive Content intern for Public Radio International!

Mary Bock (BNews'86)

This was my year for a big change. My book, Video Journalism: Beyond the One Man Band was published, and I moved to Austin, Texas, to join the faculty of UT-Austin. So far so good. A lizard (tiny, yes, but a lizard nonetheless) walked into my apartment shortly after my move; I learned that living with 105 degree summer days is not all that different than living through the 20-degree below zero days of Iowa (you just stay inside); and I'm learning to switch from the Philadelphia second-person plural of you's, to the southern version, y'all. Oh - and breakfast tacos are amazing. More to the point: UT is supporting me in my efforts to do research that will help visual journalists do their jobs more safely, effectively and mindfully, and I am very excited to get started. I'm attaching a picture of myself with my husband, David Schneider, at a Longhorn game. David's still in Philadelphia for now, finishing his master's at Temple.



Jennifer Fah (RTV'95)

In July I accepted a job as editor for "The Price is Right" on CBS. I also continue to freelance on a variety of reality shows. In my free time, I am well on my way to completing my goal of running 40 Half Marathons by my 40th birthday, and will complete this task on January 20th, by running the Tinkerbell Half the morning of my birthday. I enclose a picture of me at work in my cave at CBS.



Angie Hunt (BNews'98)

After working for nearly 15 years as a reporter, most recently for KCCI as the Ames Livelink reporter, I decided it was time for a transition. I accepted a position in November as a communication specialist at Iowa State University.

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I will be responsible for sending out stories from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Human Sciences and Business as well as assisting reporters covering issues on campus. I've had the opportunity to work as a reporter with several of my new colleagues in News Services so I'm very excited to now be part of the team. This new opportunity will also allow me to continue teaching and working with young journalists on campus. My husband Ryan and I are still enjoying life in Ames and cheering for the Cyclones -- except, of course, when they're playing the Bulldogs!

Kailyn (Reid) Watson (BNews'05)

I'm still working as a communications specialist for the Omaha Public Schools. Our district has experienced an interesting year of changes and we will soon have four new Board of Education members and a new superintendent. The board is also considering restructuring the district's central office, so that could bring several new responsibilities to our department over the next year, including social media efforts. Never a dull moment in the PR office! On a personal note, my husband and I are expecting our first child in early June! We're very excited and I look forward to buying a lot of baby-sized Nebraska Husker attire for him or her.

Alexandra (Sweet) Bayer (BNews'95)

I am still here in Northern California working for a biotech company in their legal department handling contract negotiations. My husband Al and I just celebrated our daughter Madison's 1st birthday in October – my how the time flies.



Melanie (McEwan) McDonald (BNews'93)

I left higher education PR to run the public relations department at Indiana University Health Goshen. It's a fantastic organization with many opportunities for professional advancement. I am responsible for media relations, social media, our speakers' bureau, and our internal newsletter. Megan is now 16—a junior—and is learning to drive (even though she already things she's a GREAT driver, despite having only 20 hours under her belt). She is a good student and outstanding lacrosse player. Sean is eight and in second grade. He is kind and contemplative and loves having long conversations with adults. Gerard and I celebrated nine years of marriage in June. He is in charge of government affairs at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in South Bend. Brian Weiss (BNews'93) visited us in Mishawaka this summer. It was great to see him. He's doing really well at his Denver architecture firm—he is now a partner. Impressive.



Stephanie Sanyour (BNews'12)

I became a weekend news producer at WHO-TV in October, two months after graduating. I used to be an intern at Channel 13, which I believe helped me to get my position. I am in charge of producing the 9 p.m. Fox-17 show Saturday and Sunday. In my "free" time. I teach and choreograph Latin dance.



Jim Ashton (RTV'68)

My chronology includes: 1963-68 worked onair at KWDM-FM, KSO and WHO; February '68 married Peggy Knobel (ED May '68) and worked at KCOG, Centerville, Iowa; drafted into the Military on Friday, Sept. 13, 1968; served as a Marine Corps dental technician on three ships and as a Corpsman, Fleet Marine Force, in Vietnam. My wife and I live in Wildwood, MO, and have three grown children who work in accounting, as a DEA agent and in telecommunications. I worked in two healthcare PR jobs and in healthcare sales 36 years before retiring in October 2010. Drake provided my wife and me with a great education.

John Garcia (BNews'86) reports for WLS-TV, Chicago. He's contributed many years as a national adviser to SJMC. Jessica (Petty) Smith (BNews'99) started her own company, Anemone Floral Design, in July of 2011 and has been enjoying designing event floral while continuing to teach humanities and art courses for City Colleges of Chicago. She, her husband Ethan and son Adrian welcomed a new family member, Vivian Mae, on April 28th of this year.



Kayleigh McCullough (BNews'12)

In July I was hired as the overnight multimedia producer at WHO-TV in Des Moines. I was thrilled at the chance to be in charge of keeping our 15 community pages up-to-date, posting breaking news and updating our social media sites. After about a month the assistant producer of the morning show went on maternity leave. I took over some duties, splitting my time between helping write the morning show and updating the website. Then in September I filled in as the weekend producer for our 9 p.m. FOX newscast. I enjoyed producing the show, but not nearly as much as taking care of the website. When a daytime multimedia position became available I jumped at the chance! After just 5 short months I've worn several hats, but I'm back to doing the one thing I enjoy the most.



I attached a photo of boyfriend and me because I know you've been dying to see the poor guy who has stuck with me for the last 4 years :)

Kuebari ("Austin") Lemea's (RTV'10) new novel Minus-16 available from Tate Publishing links terrible historical events in his native Nigeria, an unusual key chain and a beautiful girl.

Nice holiday card received from **Brenda** (**Drey**) **Benge** (**BNews'95**). She and her family of four live in Cedar Rapids.

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Jill (Lingwall) Farmer (RTV/BNews'91)

wrote her first book this year. The Emmy award winning TV reporter and anchor-turnedspeaker, coach and writer just finished "There's Not Enough Time: And Other Lies We Tell Ourselves." It's designed to make everyone's life more efficient, productive and meaningful. Jill speaks at institutions, companies and organizations around the country about the best ways to experience maximum well-being in this one amazing life we have to live. jillfarmercoaching.com



Stephanie (Angleson) French (BNews'00) I am still working at WOI as the morning and midday anchor. In fact, I celebrate my 8th anniversary on Dec. 2. We recently expanded our morning show to two hours, from 5 to 7. We also re-vamped the rundown, so that was a big undertaking. Political season is always busy. We took advantage of many live opportunities on our Morning and Midday shows. We Skyped daily with one of our sister station's reporters who covered both the RNC and DNC. That was the first time I had used Skype in a newscast and it worked well. We also had the opportunity, through ABC, to live-interview Cokie Roberts from the conventions as well as post-debates and post-election. Her insights were of great value, and I am grateful to have interviewed one of the greatest minds in the business. I am fortunate to have a job that challenges me, co-workers who are team players and an employer that gives us all room to grow. I had our second daughter in the summer of 2011, so I am balancing married life with two kids. But, I wouldn't have it any other way! Early risers are welcome to catch a morning show from the studio. Chris and I are pretty nice to visitors!



Mark Stevens (BNews'10) is happily working for one of the stations he grew up watching in the Quad Cities. He joined KWQC after spending two years in Rockford at WTVO/WQRF. It's been a good move up. More is expected of him, but the station has better equipment, a larger staff, and news cars that haven't hit 200-thousand miles yet. He continues developing his skills hoping to become an investigative reporter. He's also playing in numerous local bands with his tuba. And the Tuba Christmas hat continues to be worn proudly every winter.

Jessica (Roberts) Lown (BNews'04) visited the Radio News class during fall term to discuss "cops and robbers" and especially her work as a publicist with Iowa's Department of Public Safety. Jessica played an important role in coordinating media coverage of Chinese Vice President Xi's visit to Central Iowa in February. She's also working on her master's degree at Iowa State and serves on SJMC's National Advisory Committee.



Shelley (Russell) Skuster (BNews'08) In September I accepted a job as a general

assignment reporter at KWWL in Waterloo, Iowa. It's a much different pace than what I was used to after reporting in Omaha for a couple of years, but it's a welcomed change. My husband, Chris, and I just bought a house in my hometown Waverly and we are enjoying being back "home!" Chris is a caseworker for Families First, an agency that is contracted through the DHS and helps families work toward self-sufficiency. And Maggie, our 5-year old rescue mutt, is still spoiled as ever.



Alexa Horwart (BNews'08), Refugee Health Program fellow, Minnesota Dept. of Health.

Melanie Fielder (BNews'12)

I accepted a marketing job in September with Sammon's financial group. I'll be doing marketing, advertising/copywriting, editing, proofing, some PR, graphic design, web design and down the line they are looking to do in-house video. SO a lot of stuff really! The position is in West Des Moines, actually a mile from my apartment.

Paige Hulsey (BNews'11)

After my year as a "foreign language expert" (English teacher) at Tianjin Normal University in China, I returned to North America in August.



I enjoyed meeting up with my family in Canada for our annual fishing vacation. I made sure my schedule allowed me to be in the Missouri woods for deer season. I harvested a nice 7-point buck. In January, I'll return to China to begin a new job in Shanghai, working as a relationship manager in the marketing department of SimplyBridal.com. For now, I'm content with traveling and getting more worldly experience before calling myself a "journalist," as I'd like to do one day. The photo captured Paige with her Speech and Debate students in Tianjin.

Jon Wolfe (RTV'03)

I moved to LA following graduation. Had a few odd jobs in the beginning while getting settled, but these days I'm doing motion graphics for film/TV. Mostly in post-production but also do production when needed for the project.

Jack Bunds (RTV'83)

Account executive for Cox Business, Tulsa, since October 2007. Assistant news director then sports director for KTUL-TV, total six years & 9 months. I came to Drake in 1979 and learned a great deal, thanks to Jim Duncan, Professor Lytle, Dean Herb Strentz, and many other incredible teachers and students. Their guidance allowed me to overcome my shortcomings and take part in a magnificent profession. After working for WHO-TV, I worked in Tulsa TV for 25 years. We won a couple of Emmy's, a Murrow award, and many AP and OAB awards. **Paul Taylor (BNews'84)** works and lives in California. He returned to Central Iowa in June for his mother's funeral and managed some golf at Waveland.



Amber (Lee) Schindeldecker (BNews'03) was among 11 electronic journalists taking part in the summer 2012 German/American Journalist Exchange Program. The two-week program took her to Berlin, Leipzig and Cologne, plus Brussels. Amber is 11 p.m. producer at WINK-TV, Ft. Myers, Florida.

David Lubbers (BNews'86) continues producing investigative segments for ESPN, primarily for Outside the Lines. David occasionally visits classes, as schedules permit. He lives in Des Moines and travels lots. David also serves on SJMC's National Advisory Council. Thanks for sharing!

Greg (BNews'09) and Tammy (Erlandson) Votava (BNews'09)

We got married in June and bought a house this November, moving us to Johnston. We would like to thank the Meredith basement for introducing us and allowing us to spend quality time together editing, writing stories and producing radio and TV shows. Greg still loves his job at Simpson College, in the office of Public Relations and Marketing, as the Digital Content Specialist. His office finished a large project for Simpson this past year with the launch of the new website. Tammy is working at a political consulting firm downtown as a researcher, editor, videographer and writer, otherwise known as a Digital Asset Manager.

Joey Donia (BNews'07)



I've been at Channel 5 for over two years now. In June I was promoted to weekend sports anchor. I love my job and the people I work with. I also love being in Des Moines. **Treyva Estler (RTV'02)** frequently emails about her work in Hollywood as a video editor. She's worked on a variety of projects, including "Alaska: The Last Frontier" for Discovery, "My Momma Throws Down" for TvOne and various programs for The Food Network including "Iron Chef."

Amanda Lewis (BNews'01) reports and anchors for KCCI. She's the Central Iowa Expanded Media Coverage coordinator and offers SJMC valued advice about EMC policies and procedures during the year.

Rich Harrington (BNews/RTV'94) serves on SJMC's National Advisory Board, often by telephone from the headquarters of his visual communications company, RHEDPixel, Falls Church, VA. He's also busy on the convention circuit as a certified trainer for Adobe, Apple and Avid.



Jennifer (Grannan) Johnson (BNews'02) In the past year I started working at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau, WI, as the Marketing and Public Relations coordinator. My main focus is working with the media. After five years in marketing I'm able to work again with former co-workers and colleagues in a different role. It's nice to be able to be a one-stop shop for them to put together a story and anticipate their needs. I also work on the marketing plan for the college, placing media buys and creating collateral materials. Since I've started we've implemented our first online buy beyond just the local media's websites. This position has proven to be a great combination of my two careers, broadcast journalism and marketing.

J.D. Fox (RTV'05)

Still working at Stretch Internet in Mesa, AZ as the Operations Manager. We now do audio and video streaming for over 300 schools in the US and Canada, and recently added both Grand View and AIB. We are getting closer to Drake, so maybe one day we'll stream campus events.

Check out 941thedog@drake.edu

Jarrett Schneider (BNews'07)

Communications Director for Cong. Leonard Boswell, defeated for re-election in November. I'm back on the hunt for gainful employment. I'm going to be moving to join my partner Gary in Austin, TX where he's currently a grad student at UT. Looking for PR/comm jobs in the market and hope to be settled down south by the first of the year. Jarrett previously served as communications director in the Iowa Secretary of State's office.

Maggie (Buttweiler) Biehert (BNews'96)

I continue to enjoy my time working in PR and communications for Cruise Holidays, a travel agency network based in Minneapolis. I also manage our social media efforts. I'll celebrate nine years with the company this spring. They continue to allow me to work part time so I can have more time at home with my adorable boys – a pre-schooler and a toddler – and let's not forget about my husband. This year our company held our convention on the Allure of the Seas — the world's largest cruise ship. I have attached a photo of me on the job – doing my best to take in a little sun while at a recent work function on a cruise ship. Do you think I packed the wrong kind of "suit"?



Corey Egel (BNews'95)

I no longer produce television newscasts (long story). I worked for e.Republic as a marketing intelligence analyst. The company provides smart media for public sector innovation. The position gave me the chance to use my writing skills and to think in a creative fashion that doesn't always exist where it's "Just the facts. ma'am." Now, I work for the Office of Public Affairs with the California Department of Public Health as an information officer. I'm responsible for Facebook and Twitter, shooting and editing videos (I miss the decks with the knobs and buttons!), writing news releases, posting information on the Internet and other assorted tasks. An added bonus is being able to work with y media connections, but from the other side. So, I'm still involved with news, but without the crazy hours and stress of racing the clock everyday to get a newscast on the air. Still, once a newsie...always a newsie.

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Autumn Moore (RTV'12)

I have been back in Des Moines since July working as the videographer for ZLR Ignition. I get to shoot and edit most of their video work. I have also been thrown into many concepting groups so learning some ad skills! I'm lucky to have a job and I can finally pay all my bills.



Sarah Moritz (RTV'08)

I started out working as a PA on the movie "Peacock" starring Ellen Page, Susan Sarandon, Cillian Murphy (Scarecrow in Batman), Josh Lucas (Sweet Home Alabama) and Bill Pullman (Spaceballs, Independence Day). Then I got a job with Mediacom in Des Moines, helping produce content for channel 22. Lots of local sports and events doing instant replay, camera operation and video editing. I appeared weekly on Mediacom as a reporter for High School Sports Wrap. Then chose to make a career shift and got my Life Accident and Health license and became an agent for Millang Financial Group, a small independent insurance brokerage. I obtained my Series 6 license in February 2011 and worked with the variable products available through ING. Currently I'm at Metlife Investors in their Variable Annuity Operations department. I've also been working for Des Moines Radio Group since summer of 2005, and now I'm on Lazer 103, usually weekend mornings and afternoons. (From LinkedIn)

Chris Parrish (BNews'05)

Hello from Boston. I've been a producer at WHDH-TV for about two and a half years now. My lovely bride Catie (Bielecki) JO'08 and I celebrated our one year anniversary in October. We also just celebrated a year as dog parents of our rescue shar-pei mix Gus. This may not be Iowa and people out here may have some pretty strange accents. But it's a pretty great place to be. If anyone wants to check things out here, drop me a line at cjparrish@gmail.com. And if anyone wants to work out here, please let me know!

Andrea Garnant (RTV'06), Creative Services manager, KCWI KDMI, Des Moines.

Cody Gough (RTV'07)

I'm officially a professional actor! I shot a Kentucky Lottery commercial in Louisville in November, and it should be airing in Kentucky throughout December (keep an eye out for a goofy tall guy dressed in a Snuggie). This was my first professional acting gig booked through a major Chicago casting agency. Acting doesn't pay the bills, of course, so I also work fulltime as a social media coordinator at a small marketing agency called Upshot. I was hired in April, and I have been extraordinarily happy here (Upshot was recently named the #10 Top Small Workplace in Chicago by the Chicago Tribune). And on top of playing on Facebook all day and trying to be famous, you can still hear me pipe in Sunday evenings with Brian Noonan on 720 WGN Radio from 6-9. Please hit me up if you're passing through town at cgough@wgnradio.com! Looking forward, I'm hoping to work on some personal projects this year, so keep an eye out for my name on You-Tube and various podcasting networks. And I'm always happy to give a little social media marketing advice to a Bulldog in need!

Katie (Willeke) Cothron (BNews'02) The New Year started off great for the Cothron family. Not only were we back in St Louis, but we welcomed the birth of our first child, Sydney Ann. She was a week late, but finally graced us on March 31, 2012. Since then, we've enjoyed watching her grow. It's truly amazing how much and how quickly they change.



We also continued our annual tradition of traveling abroad and Sydney was the best addition. We took her to Aruba and she loved it. We're not sure what she enjoyed more, splashing in the water or all the attention she got from other tourists. As for work, still at KMOV here in St Louis. Working the day assignment desk which enables me to finally have a normal sleep schedule! Looking ahead to 2013, we're excited about planning Sydney's 1st birthday and taking her to Germany in early July.

"Hey, Lytle. You should be reminded that you have influenced many people's lives. Did you know that I still talk to you in my head?"

Lauren Staller (RTV'11)

After graduation I moved to Los Angeles to see what I could stir up. I was given a lot of opportunities and have been lucky enough to try most of them out. So far I've been involved in the editorial department of many different mediums of video. I started out the year working with a small independent film production company in West Hollywood called Ambush Entertainment. I was the Lead Assistant Editor on a reality TV show called Labor of Love. Terrible show but an amazing opportunity where I ended up getting not only an Assist credit, but bonded with the editor enough to get the chance to cut scenes that were aired untouched and a full on Editor credit on national TV! My dream! This led me to my next gig working at a big post-production house called 51 Minds in Hollywood. I've been working for 51 for the majority of the year. I'm an Assistant Editor on a show that's set to air in January on Bravo, called Below Deck. Below Deck is taking its sweet time in post so I picked up a second job working as a Lead Assistant Editor on a feature film entitled Uncanny. This journey has been CRAZY. We are now at the stage of submission to film festivals (Sundance, South by Southwest and Tribeca). Fingers crossed we make it!



Stephanie Foreman (BNews'07)

I'm still living in Minneapolis, working for my family's paper and printing company. While I enjoy helping keep the paper industry alive, I'm interested in returning to the broadcast world. I am exploring opportunities (so if anyone knows of any out there...) Outside of work I spend time riding my horse — training and competing in the English Horse Show circuit.

Jeff Marcus (RTV'85) is president and founder of Rock Around the Clock Wedding and Event Entertainment. Jeff teaches music history classes and has written two books. He lives and works in the Phoenix area.

Dan Bolsem (BNews'97), Creative Services photographer, KCCI, Des Moines.

E-Media 2012

Natalie (Linville) Gendron (BSM'92) is president of MediaLink Software in Rock Island. She previously owned Gendron Advertising in the Quad Cities.

Joe Acker (RTV'04) died of his own hand May 18 in his hometown Cedar Rapids. He'd most recently worked for Go Daddy in Hiawatha as a media buyer.

Scott Inukai (RTV'06) is project manager for Temple Rock Productions in the Chicago area. He was previously production manager for the Iowa Events Center.

Debbie (Bernstein) LaCroix (BNews'97) lives in suburban Sioux City (across the river in South Dakota) with her family. She's a published author of children's books.

Glen Biermann (RTV'89) remains our "go-to" resource for advice on lighting news production. He's scheduled many session of J100 TV Field Photography around his work for KCCI, Des Moines.

Jake Griggs (RTV'97) sends greetings from Dakota, Minnesota. E-Media loved last season's family photo. He's serving on Ridgeway's school board as a parent member and works for ACE Communications Group.



Scott (RTV'97) and Heidi (Biedermann) Gojkovich (BNews'98) continue their important work in Des Moines. Scott's titles include operations manager for The Des Moines Radio Group. He's also served as a valued resource, guiding 94-1 The Dog through its FCC license renewal hoops. Heidi remains executive producer for KCCI and has spent a fair amount of her time in 2012 producing morning newscasts. She's a welcome guest speaker to the Drake-LINE capstone class.

Nice holiday card from **Eric** (**RTV'03**) and **Nori** (**BNews'03**) **Duffee**. They live in Columbus, Ohio, with daughters Kyra and Kayla.

Danielle Sauka (BNews'09)

Finally landed the dream job, news producer at KCCI here in Des Moines (they even pay me now!). I produce the morning show with fellow alum **Heidi Gojkovich (BNews'98)** two days a week, plus the weekend evening shows. I enjoy going to work every day! When I'm not at KCCI, I showcase my serving talents at Jethro's BBQ near Drake.



Melissa (Gundlah) Hintz (BNews'86) In February, after 30 years in Iowa, we packed up the moving van and headed to North Carolina. I landed my dream job as Media Director at Trone Brand Energy in High Point. My husband is now a G-man with the FAA at the Greensboro airport. Trone is a lot like Strategic America - 4 partners and about 50 really dedicated and bright employees. We've done a couple BBQ contests down here, but as you may know Carolina BBQ is very different from Kansas City or Memphis style BBQ ... lots of vinegar. Not sure we really like it, but we will find our niche. We are dominating in brisket though, since no one here knows how to cook beef....all BBQ is pork. If you are heading through please drop in to say hello and I will give you some nice southern hospitality, y'all!



Tami Wiencek (BNews'84) directs the Digital Communication Program at William Penn University. She's also heavily involved with the Musco Lighting-funded Communications Research Institute (CRI) in Oskaloosa.

Audrey Reed-Grainger (BNews'96), coowner, founder and PR-marketing expert, 70kft brand marketing, Dallas.

Maureen McKamey (BNews'11)

I've returned to Minnesota to anchor and produce the 9 p.m. weekday newscasts for KEYC/ Fox Mankato.



After graduating, I lucked out finding a job in TV news, reporting for CRI-TV, the non-profit cable station in Oskaloosa. I covered health and business stories for the CRI Weekly News, and then I started anchoring the newscast every other week and began serving as co-executive producer for Oskaloosa Today, CRI's monthly, documentary-style show.

Travis Monroe (RTV'07)

As my company, Mediamazing, enters its third year, I'm enjoying working on all types of production projects in the Twin Cities. I started off 2012 making national headlines with my work on Benilde-St. Margaret's boys hockey state title run and being the first to report via Twitter a MLB scandal. Then life derailed for a bit, thanks to a driver talking on his cell phone and not seeing me on my motorcycle. Since the accident, I've been tackling a local outdoors show, preparing it to make its debut on Fox Sports North after several years on local cable. Along with re-editing and re-imaging the show, I will also be getting in front of the camera for the first time since my years at Drake. And next summer I've been tapped to teach youth filmmaking classes at the University of Minnesota. Bridget is in her second year at Bellmont Partners Public Relations, where she was promoted to Director of Digital & Social Media this summer. She was also selected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Minnesota Interactive Marketing Association. We celebrated our five-year wedding anniversary in September, and we're busy preparing for the arrival of Baby Boy Monroe, due in early April 2013!

Koren (Swanda) Scott (RTV'90), Financial Aid operations supervisor, Edison State College-Fort Myers, FL.

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Laurel (Bower) Burgmaier (BNews'95), producer, Iowa Public Television.

Mary Milz (BNews'83), Citybeat reporter, WTHR, Indianapolis.

Adrianne (Traxinger) Michele (RTV'96)

This year I completed an Executive Leadership Development Program, where I traveled around the world to get a better understanding of the scope of the Department of Defense. One of the highlights was training with the Navy SEALs at Coronado Beach ("get wet and sandy!").



I am still with North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD, tracking Santa this time of year!) and U.S. Northern Command. We were busy last month with response to Hurricane Sandy, and I worked in the Department of Homeland Security's National Operations Center Crisis Action Team. On a personal note, my husband and I did a mission trip to Nepal, which was an incredible blessing.

Dayna Schmidt (RTV/BNews'04) was drafted this year (via the power of LinkedIn) by fellow Drake alum Tina Johns (JO '97) to be the Website Content Editor for law firm Schiff Hardin LLP. Dayna attempts to manage the firm's social media in addition to constant website updates. She lives in Chicago's Logan Square neighborhood with her daughter and boyfriend.

A.J. Harrison (BNews'12)

After graduating in May, I accepted a position at The University of Tulsa where I work in the athletic department as a media relations assistant. I serve as the contact for volleyball, track and tennis, and help out with the football and basketball programs. Besides writing press releases and designing media guides, I help out with the social media and multimedia efforts of the athletic department. I do a lot of videos that accompany my stories on the web and I try to always remind those that don't have a background in video to always use a tripod when conducting an interview. I've also had the opportunity to do play by play for some of the olympic sports at TU, including men's soccer, which was something that I always wanted to do while at Drake.

Lauren Mease (RTV'10), Principal Financial marketing department.

Lee Carey (BNews'77)

It's been 10 years since I permanently stepped out on my own, launching Carey + Company, a media & communications content strategy company - a fancy way of saying, "We do it all," in this multi-platform messaging world. Love my work, love my clients (a couple of them are even Drake J-school grads!). In a previous life, I was a producer at Twin Cities Public Television for 20 years, working on local and national programs, including the PBS science programs Newton's Apple and Health Diary. Live in Little Canada, MN, with my husband, and often one or both of our two adult children who occasionally appear on our doorstep. Hope to see many of you at the SJMC All Class Reunion in April!

James Simmons (BNews'00), Emergency Room Nurse at Resurrection Medical Center, Chicago.

Jason Justice (RTV'95), director of Operations, Union Broadcasting's WHB, Kansas City. Kim Justice (RTV'93), voice123.com/ kimberlyjustice

Jonathan Quinn RTV'10), owner Quinn Digital Media, Des Moines, as freelance videographer and photographer.

Karen Fuller (RTV'89), co-anchor KCTV5, Kansas City, weeknight newscasts.

Katherine Rupp (BNews'09), editorial assistant, Meredith Publishing, Des Moines.

(Edwarda)

Kelly (Edwards) Barash (BNews'01), office manager, HighTower Financial Services, Chicago.

Kelly Shoff (BNews'90), executive producer, KETV, Omaha.

Jeremy Scavo (RTV'10), news photographer, KCCI, Des Moines.

Kirsten (Benton) Johnson (BNews'96), associate professor of Communications at Elizabethtown (PA) College.

Lisa Ripson (RTV/BNews'92), Ripson Communications, Chicago.

Matt Haeger (RTV'06), Entercom broadcast group, Denver.

Mike Borland (BNews), chief news photographer, WHO-TV, Des Moines, and frequent J100 guest.

Neil Kyer (RTV'95), video editor, Iowa Public Television.

Norm Ogilvie (BNews'81), director of Track & Field, Duke University.

Pat Parris (BNews'87), anchor-reporter, Fox Sports Midwest, St. Louis.

Rami Dougherty (BNews'00), special education teacher, Urbandale (IA) Middle School.

Randy Beamer (BNews'81), Emmy Awardwinning weeknight co-anchor at 5, 6, 6:30 & 10 p.m. and a photojournalist for News 4 WOAI, San Antonio.

Ryan Dunn (RTV'00), television producer, Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino, Altoona, Iowa.

Scott Huskey (RTV'75), vice president, Rusty Walker Programming Services.

Tammy Auel (RTV'94)

I'm going on year five of being a freelance agency producer in the Twin Cities. It's been great fun and I have had the chance to work with amazing people on some fun accounts. You can see my latest and greatest at producergirl.com.

Tim Blaney (BNews'90), business analyst for Nordstrom, Seattle, since January, 2012.

Todd Jones (BNews'83), director of Marketing and Public Relations, Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny.

Tom Rapp (RTV'10), news videographer, KCCI, Des Moines.

Tony Tandeski (BNews'08), executive producer, WBAY-TV News, Green Bay.



1999 E-Media Capstone Activity DrakeLINE Cast and Crew

Mike Jacobs (RTV'73) is the longest serving TV news anchor in Milwaukee. He started as a weekend anchor and reporter in August 1977 and moved to the anchor desk full time a year later. Jacobs co-anchors WTMJ weekday newscasts at 5, 6 and 10 p.m.





Audio in Meredith TV Master, early 1970s

Sami Richmond (RTV'12) starts her new job as account executive with Cumulus radio in Des Moines Jan. 7. The local group includes 95 KGGO and Great Country KJJY. Wendy Malnack (RTV'92)

Owner, W. M. Productions, Las Vegas, specializing in public relations and communications.

Naomi (Martig) Smith (BNews'01) lives in Washington, DC, where she and her husband Stephen celebrated the birth of their first child earlier this year.



Brad Ehrlich (BNews'03) I' left (WHO-AM and TV) to open some boutique gyms in the Chicagoland area. I bought the Midwest franchising rights to "Orange Theory Fitness".

DRAKELINE.COM ARCHIVED

Brianna Laubach has invested considerable Work Study hours supplementing DrakeLINE and FOCUS (remember that one?) archives. We converted the site to WordPress. Take a look.

This pdf saved low res to reduce size.

Engineer Jeff Nichols resolves SJMC computer network, hardware and software issues. Nichols became E-Media's first full-time technician in fall 1986.



E-Media 2012

Aseel Al-Turkait (BNews'01) was named one of Kuwait's Top 50 Influential Achievers in 2012. Due to her non-profit work in education, she has moved on from her career as head of Public & Government Affairs at ExxonMobil Kuwait, and is now leading the Public Relations Department at Kuwait's largest non-profit education company. Aseel oversees four companies including the alumni association for her old alma mater, Al-Bayan Bilingual School. Known for her love for fashion, Aseel also works part time as Public Relations & Marketing director for Designers' Lounge, a fashion boutique showcasing some of the world's most creative designers. Aseel has recently become a Great Aunt and is hoping to open her fourth bakery branch sometime next year.



At the Stars of Kuwait Gala, Aseel, with mother Altaf, was named one of the Top 50 Kuwaiti Achievers in 2012.



American Forces Network - Stuttgart, 1968