Big Business
William A. Franke gives NAU a historic gift—$25 million for the College of Business

Green Acres
Planting Arizona’s most environmentally friendly building
p. 12

Microbe Management
A conversation with David Engelthaler, ’91, TGen North’s new director
p. 14

ALSO: President John D. Haeger on finding success through innovation. p. 5
8 Investing in Excellence
The largest contribution in NAU history promises to transform the university.

12 Green is Good
NAU aims to build the most environmentally friendly building in Arizona.

14 Microbe Management
David Engelthaler, ’91, talks about his new job as director of TGen North.

4 Thoughts
Generosity and a Seinfeld-ism.

5 Links
President Haeger shares his thoughts on success through innovation.

16 Journeys
A pair of reunions transforms the Mountain Campus into a performance stage and a hockey arena.

18 Connections
Linking up with Lumberjacks and meeting some future ones.

22 Memoirs
They will be missed.

Autumn at Sunset Crater
Aspens change colors on the edge of a lava flow. —Photograph by George Stocking

Cover Photo
William A. Franke’s $25 million contribution is the largest ever given to NAU.—Photograph by Michael Mertz
Generosity & a Seinfeld-ism

It is amazing and humbling to me to think about the generosity of those who support NAU. I refer not only to the monetary support, which is obviously critical, but also to those who give their time and energy to NAU as volunteers, advisory board members, event attendees, etc. I have heard so many stories from alumni about how much they value their experiences here as a student, and how—whether or not they have even been back to campus since graduation—they keep a heartfelt fondness for NAU. It is with this same fondness in MY heart that I am proud to bring you this latest installment of PINE.

In this issue, we ask you to share in one of the proudest moments in NAU’s long history: its largest gift to date—$25 million. Read all about the who, what, why, where and wow (page 8). The campus building boom is inspiring some unusual new standards for design achievement, as evidenced by the new Applied Research and Development building (page 12). Learn to read beyond the media hype of today’s bioterrorism threat with TGen North’s achievement, as evidenced by the new Applied Research and Development building (page 12). Learn to read beyond the media hype of today’s bioterrorism threat with TGen North’s

Sometime-misanthrope Jerry Seinfeld once joked, “There is no such thing as ‘fun for the whole family!’” We understand what he’s getting at, but we beg to differ. Think of barbecuing on July 4th with 20 kids and a great selection of cocktail shakers, or watching the balloons blown up for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. At the Alumni Office we’ve seen plenty of evidence that a family visit back to campus can be a treat for all ages, and if you don’t believe that, take a turn around the Skydome at a Lumberjack tailgate and watch the kids high-five our Louie mascot while Dad plies his biggest grill tongs.

In any case, as part of this year’s 83rd NAU Homecoming celebration, we offer a chance for your whole family to get involved with the university as part of our NAU Nth Degree (page 18) and remember those we have lost in Memoirs (page 22). I leave you with a message from our Editor.

Until next time,

Krista Perkins
Managing Editor

Anne Walden
Editor

NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGES
To submit address and name/marital status changes, call the NAU Office of Alumni Relations toll-free at 888-628-2586 (888-NAU-ALUM) or sue.obrzut@nau.edu.

Send your letters to the editor to:
PINE
Box 6034
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-6034
Or email krista.perkins@nau.edu
Success Through Innovation

The American railroads of the late 19th century were virtually doomed to extinction when they defined themselves as being in the railroad business. Had they defined themselves only as being in the transportation business, they may have had an entirely different history.

Similarly, Northern Arizona University cannot simply define itself as offering academic programs. We must build on our entrepreneurial spirit. We have to continue to be agents of change.

Right now, NAU conducts research related to economic growth, and we promote economic growth through projects like the hotel and conference center complex on north campus. We promote access and affordability through innovative distance programs that reach thousands of students throughout the state.

We must continue to expand the definition of what we do in the state of Arizona if we want the state of Arizona to invest in us.

Of course, we cannot rely solely on state investments—we also depend on the entrepreneurial spirit of others. In May, NAU announced receiving its biggest private investment ever—$25 million to the College of Business from William A. Franke.

Mr. Franke’s generosity was in large part the result of our mission that focuses on undergraduate education and minority and first-generation students. Private philanthropy enables the university to reach higher in its service to students.

We extend a gracious “thank you” to Mr. Franke, and hearty congratulations to Mason Gerety, dean of the newly named W. A. Franke College of Business.

Another enterprise that helps define NAU is TGen North, a unique partnership between the Translational Genomics Research Institute in Phoenix and the university. TGen North joins the ranks of top-notch facilities whose research centers on the detection and prevention of biological threats.

NAU has long been noted for its dedication to undergraduate education, which is enhanced by research, graduate and professional programs, and a statewide distance learning network. We will continue that dedication, embracing the necessary changes to serve our students and the state.

Louie Meets Ozzie and Maggie

No, it’s not the high-concept pitch for a sitcom (jolly lumberjack comes to stay with quaint antiques store proprietors, bull-in-china-shop larks transpire). It’s our way of announcing that PINE magazine is honored to have been nominated for two prestigious industry awards:

* By the Western Publications Association for another “Maggie” award in the category of Single Sponsor magazine, for the 2006 PINE Progress.

* By FOLIO: The Magazine for Magazine Management for an “Ozzie” award in the category of Best Redesign (Custom).

The Office of Alumni Relations thanks NAU University Advancement and McMurry for helping us pursue our mission of excellence in communication and keeping our editorial and aesthetic standards high.

Going Pro

One moment you’re warm and fuzzy, a brand-new grad voguing with your mortarboard. The next, you might be feeling a cool shiver of reality as today’s job market looms. But NAU’s Gateway Student Success Center offers a way to ease this tricky transition: a free online recruitment service, Gateway Connects.

Gateway Connects is open to both employers and job seekers. Employers advertise opportunities and locate prospective employees; job candidates search for opportunities; and information on career events is available to all. More than 1,200 employers are signed up on Gateway Connects.

To register, visit nau.edu/gatewayconnects. You can log in as an “Employer” or “Alumni.” After activation (24 to 48 hours), you can delve into positions or candidates and submit résumés for on- and off-campus interviews. Gateway Connects allows you to search by keyword, major and class level, and to update your profile or edit job listings at your convenience—24/7.

For more information on this free online recruitment service, call the Gateway Student Success Center at 928-523-4772.
Embraced by the cheers of a galvanized audience in a nationally televised performance, NAU sophomore Lopez Lomong claims his second NCAA individual championship (in the men’s 1500 meters—3:37.07) at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Sacramento, Calif. His blistering speed represents not only a school record, but also a Big Sky Conference record, breaking the old mark by 1.97 seconds.

Goldmine

At its annual retreat in July, the NAU Alumni Association Board of Directors added three new members, each of them a treasure trove of resources.

Veronica Perez, ’94 B.S., outcomes management director, American Cancer Society SW Division. Hailing from rural Arizona, Veronica understands the unique needs of students and their parents who have never had the opportunity to attend a university. “I would like to increase the diversity of NAU alumni, and be a voice for the needs of first-generation college-bound students.”

Doug Rutan, ’71 B.S.ED., superintendent, Somerton School District. Doug and his wife, Nancy, have recently returned from Idaho, and are excited to be back in Arizona to support and serve NAU. “As an educator in Yuma County, I have the opportunity to support the large group of NAU grads employed in the county school districts. I can also be a strong advocate for the NAU-Yuma program, and for alumni in Southern California.”

David Will, ’61 B.A., ’64 M.A., speech pathologist, retired. Offering innovative ideas and organizational acumen, David “loves NAU” and has “great memories.” He has been organizing reunion events for 30-plus years, and started the Special Olympics in Tulare County, Calif.

The board and Alumni Office warmly thank the two board members who have completed their terms, Immediate Past President Rhian Evans Allvin, ’94, and Jerry Marchal, ’60, for their incomparable commitment to their alma mater.
Fifty Years and Golden Memories

After the Golden Graduate Class of 1957’s triumphant return to the NAU campus last spring, we were touched by their gratitude and graciousness. We’ll let their own heartfelt words serve to annotate the account of their nostalgic rendezvous:

“Delightful! Mother Nature and Father Time appear to have been more than kind to the Golden Graduate Class of 1957. This old cowboy was more than pleasantly surprised to see how much younger we all looked than our 70-plus years. The Hochgraefs were a dynamite couple back at ASC and still are, as were the Cunninghams, the McGradys and the Cogdills. It was a Chain Gang, fraternity and sorority reunion with memories of the Sweetheart Ball and Club Wintertime. And Jim Monroe, without the beard I would have recognized you anywhere.” —John Cook

“Many changes have occurred on campus since our class graduated in 1957—additional buildings, increased enrollment—but admirably, the students’ and faculty’s friendliness, pride and desire to achieve have not altered. I especially treasure the opportune time to enjoy meeting our classmates and renewing friendships with them. Beautiful and lasting impressions were facilitated by a most comfortable NAU bus with its expert driver, accompanied by a 2007 graduating senior guide. We toured the campus and also saw much of the city of Flagstaff. There was a memorable tour of the Riordan Mansion, and a reception on the Mansion lawn. After graduation, the lunch at Old Main was presided over by a ‘master emcee,’ alumni director Neil Goodell, ’76 & ’96. The highlight of the luncheon was having Lucy Walkup and Joe and Marie Rolle join us. Most of all, I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the graduation exercises and receive the special honorary 2007 graduation certificate. The efforts of the NAU Alumni Office to welcome and honor the Class of 1957 conveyed the university’s sense of pride in our accomplishments over the past half century. We truly experienced a joyful reunion.” —Frank Vladich

“We were very pleased to find that both my senior roommates and fraternity brothers, Bill Kellis and Jim Monroe, were in attendance. It had been 50 years since I’d seen Jim and about 10 years since I’d seen Bill. The three of us had not communicated about coming, I believe we were the only roommates to attend. I also enjoyed seeing John Cook and renewing our friendship. Seeing everyone, even those whom we see fairly often, was great fun.” —Bill Hochgraef

“Sweet memories! We are still basking in the glow of the great time the NAU Alumni Office created for us. It was nice to see old friends and reminisce about old times. The group hadn’t changed a bit except for some white hair (and a few extra pounds). We had forgotten how special [these folks] are and how lucky we are to have them in our lives.” —George and Mary Lou Vladich McGrady

“The Golden Graduate reunion was a wonderful experience! It was such a pleasure to see good friends again, to wander around the old campus and have lunch with Joe and Marie Rolle and Lucy Walkup in Old Main, and to share in the experience of graduation—complete with gold robe and mortarboard and hundreds of excited, eager young people. It will certainly be a highlight in my book of memories. Many thanks to the NAU Alumni Office—what a special tradition!” —Sonia Deason Gaddis

LIST OF ATTENDEES
Roland Anderson
Pat Derting Bingham
Sam Borozan
Ken Cogdill
Janie Severson Cogdill
John Cook
Keith Crawley
Janis Arnold Cunningham
Janelle Epperson
Dottie Frazer Erdman
Sonia Deason Gaddis
Gerrie Gilliland Gutowski
Corinne Moore Hochgraef
Bill Hochgraef
Mary Ann Rushin Holland
Bill Kellis
David Kelly
Frankie Felsch Kleine
Mary Lou Vladich McGrady
Margaret Reinhold Merrow
Jim Monroe
Ruth Handorf Comstock Spencer
Ann Blair Smith
Frank Vladich

naualumni.com | Fall 2007
Investing in Excellence
William A. Franke’s generous gift to Northern Arizona University came as a surprise to some people, considering Franke had no formal connection to the institution. It shouldn’t have.

Bill Franke has been a successful, savvy businessman for decades, and he recognizes a solid investment. That’s why Franke, one of Arizona’s most prominent business leaders, made a “transformational” contribution to NAU with a $25 million gift to the College of Business.

“When you get to know NAU and the residential experience it offers to students living on campus, you understand how NAU is different and is not a one-size-fits-all university,” Franke says. “We hope this gift will take what NAU already has and strengthen it.”

NAU President John Haeger believes Franke’s contribution will be transformational for the university at large.

“It raises the bar across campus—both in fundraising and in reinforcing the quality of undergraduate education,” Haeger says. “This undergraduate residential institution is a gem in this state.”

A Force of Social Change
The $25 million gift is the largest in Northern Arizona University history. The investment will be used for scholarships, faculty development and program development. Franke is especially interested in recruiting and retaining underrepresented and first-generation students into the business college.

“I have sympathy for this issue,” Franke says. “We are a country that since our founding has integrated immigrants and the underrepresented into our society. In today’s world, to successfully achieve that integration ... you need education.

“Business education is a force for economic development and social change,” he says. “Educating future Arizona business leaders with the right skills can only strengthen the state.”
NAU’s college has been named The W. A. Franke College of Business, but Franke only agreed to that distinction because he believes it may help NAU market the college and, perhaps, solicit additional support. “Naming the college was not my decision—I was completely indifferent to that,” he says. “But the university felt that having my name on the door equated to an opportunity to better market the college, and after some discussion with my family, we agreed with that point of view. As it now turns out, what you’ll see is more focus on NAU from other potential donors.”

Success at Home and Abroad

William A. Franke was born in Texas and raised in Latin America (he graduated from high school in Brazil). Although he has lived the last 40-plus years in Arizona, he has journeyed across the globe, with business interests in the United States, Latin America, Europe and Asia.

Franke has undergraduate and graduate degrees from Stanford University, and is the managing partner of Indigo Partners and Newbridge Latin America, private equity funds focused on worldwide investments in air transportation and Latin America, respectively. He has offices in Phoenix, Singapore and Buenos Aires. He is also chairman of the boards of Tiger Airways (Singapore), Wizz Air Ltd. (Hungary), Spirit Airlines (U.S.), and Bristol Group (Argentina), as well as commissioner of Mandala Airlines (Indonesia), all Indigo investments.

In Arizona, Franke may be best known as former chief executive officer of America West Airlines, now known as US Airways, the eighth largest U.S. airline. He also is former chairman of Circle K Corp., which he restructured through its bankruptcy, and chairman of the executive committee of Valley National Bank, now Chase Bank. Franke has strong ties to the Flagstaff area as former CEO of the Fortune 500 company Southwest Forest Industries, now Smurfit-Stone Container, and former owner of KNAZ-TV Channel 2.

Alum Planted Seeds for Contribution 30 Years Ago

What started out as a possible case of mistaken identity 30 years ago resulted in a $25 million contribution to NAU’s College of Business.

In the mid-1970s, Scott Coor was a student in the College of Business and professional vice president of the business fraternity Delta Sigma Pi. In that role, Coor arranged for guest speakers, including prominent Arizona business leaders.

Coor looked to Southwest Forest Industries, which operated a sawmill in Flagstaff. Soon, he was corresponding with William A. “Bill” Franke, CEO of the company.

Because he used college stationery for his letter writing to Franke, Coor says, “I’m sure he thought he was writing to a vice president of the university.” It may have been a bit of mistaken identity, but it all worked out—quite well, in fact. Franke spoke to a capacity audience, and after his speech, Coor took Franke on a tour of campus. Coor mentioned he was graduating and discussed the possibility of a job with Southwest Forest. Franke ultimately hired him.

After graduating in 1976, Coor spent nearly 10 years at Southwest Forest Industries before pursuing his own business endeavors. He is currently vice president of sales and marketing for Trendwood Inc., which manufactures solid-wood youth bedroom furniture. Still, he has always kept in touch with his mentor, and has never forgotten the “priceless” opportunity Franke gave him.

When Coor was invited to serve on the committee for the new College of Business building, he said, “I had him [Franke] in mind from day one.” After three years of discussions, Franke announced on May 15 his $25 million contribution to what is now known as The W. A. Franke College of Business. “Bill Franke has had a tremendous impact on the state,” Coor says. “He has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of Arizonans throughout his career, and he has many ties to the Flagstaff and northern Arizona region. I know he subscribes to Warren Buffett’s philosophy of ‘learn, earn and return,’ so I just encouraged him to consider his ability to ignite the growth at NAU and help propel it to the next level.”
“I’ve been in Arizona 40 years and I’ve probably worked with 40,000 or 50,000 Arizonans,” he says. “I wanted to do something in return for the state.”

A Call to Graduates

Franke hopes that his gift will inspire NAU graduates to give to the institution. “I’d love to see graduates of the university returning some of their capital to the schools,” he says, “and hopefully [this contribution] will promote that.”

Mason Gerety, dean of the W. A. Franke College of Business, describes the contribution as an “investment in excellence.”

Gerety explains that tuition and state funding are no longer the only revenue sources that fuel a university’s aspirations. “That excellence is going to have to come from significant private funding,” he says. “There’s an awakening around the country that we can have the same sort of funding at state schools [as at private schools].”

Along with funding scholarships for underrepresented students, Franke’s gift will support eminent scholars at the college, allow the college to maintain a lead position in technology, support ethics education, and promote the college’s emphasis on written and oral communication skills.

Franke says that in his career he has encountered many college graduates with “poor basic communication skills and marginal writing skills.” Gerety says the college is committed to graduating students who understand the necessity of strong strategic business planning and who graduate with “a sense of knowing what the right thing is to do in the business community.”

A Charitable Family

Franke is active in Arizona’s charitable and civic communities. He has served as chairman of Phoenix 40; a member of the International Board of Barrow Neurological Institute; chairman of COMPAS (arts funding); a member of the Dean’s Council, Arizona State University business college; and the Dean’s Circle, Stanford Law School.

Franke, his wife, Carolyn, and their five adult children have been financial supporters of Sojourner Center in Phoenix, the United Way and Stanford (endowed professorship), and established minority student scholarships at NAU, ASU and the University of Arizona, among others.

“Bill is dedicated to investing in the economic future of Arizona,” Gerety says. “Through the many successes of his own business career, he knows that higher education is the way to influence that future in the broadest sense. In particular, Bill recognizes business education as a force for economic development and social change.”

And Franke makes it clear that he does not contribute money to constructing buildings. He’s not a bricks-and-mortar person.

“I’m interested in touching the lives of the students,” he says.  

After three years of discussions, Franke announced his historic gift to NAU on May 15, 2007.
NAU aims to cultivate the most environmentally friendly building in Arizona.

Northern Arizona University once again demonstrates its mandate to augment the quality of resources available to students and faculty with the new Applied Research and Development building (ARD). One of three new buildings on campus under consideration for U.S. Green Building Council LEED certification, a benchmark in sustainability, it is the first building in Arizona to seek platinum-level certification. If this status is granted, the ARD building will be one of only two platinum university buildings in the nation. This impressive structure features the latest innovations in high-performance construction technology, energy-efficient design and use of “green” materials.

The ARD initiative would not have been possible without a generous gift from APS, a consistent supporter of NAU initiatives. The gift also provides scholarships and internships for NAU students. “NAU and APS have enjoyed a strong partnership over many years, spanning environmental stewardship, education, and student and leadership development,” says Daniel Froetscher, APS General Manager, Northern Arizona. Additionally, a 166-kilowatt photovoltaic system, donated in part by APS, is designed to supply at least 20 percent of the building’s calculated energy load. “The ARD building and photovoltaic system are examples of how our work today will help create a better tomorrow for all of us,” Froetscher adds.
The new facility is proof that NAU’s commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions goes beyond lip service. In June, President John Haeger joined more than 250 other college and university presidents in Washington, D.C., to adopt the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment.

“We are pleased to officially commit to developing the diversity of skills needed to reverse global warming,” Haeger says. “Northern Arizona University is a leader in climate change research and curriculum, and with collaborative efforts throughout campus we are assessing ways to reduce our own greenhouse emissions.”

These energy-saving projects include a $1.3 million solar project that will power the ARD building. The impressive list of other ways the building promotes its green ideals seems endless.

“The ARD facility demonstrates water conservation, alternative energy practices, and a design that takes advantage of natural light and ventilation,” says Karan English, Project Director for NAU’s Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Program.

“In keeping with its green emphasis, ARD houses key programs of environmental research on campus. Inside you’ll find the Center for Sustainable Environments, Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program, Geospatial Information and Research Lab of the Merriam Powell Center for Environmental Research, Forest ERA and the Office of Grant and Contract Services. ARD also holds offices of NAU’s federal partners, the National Park Service and the U.S. Geological Survey, which researches the health of Colorado Plateau ecosystems with the involvement of NAU students.

English adds, “It’s vital to credit the faculty, staff, student and our environmental partners who served behind the scenes on this project. Their support had a huge role in the ARD building’s successful completion.”

Along with housing the Keim genet- ics laboratory, renowned for its study of pathogens and biothreat agents, the ARD building is a true demonstration and teaching facility. Designed to provide visitors with straightforward information on the elements and systems that make it green, the building will immerse inhabitants and guests in technology describing its unique functionality.

The ARD building will serve as a paragon and hands-on learning center for NAU students in business, engineering, sciences and other fields—and will inspire visitors from throughout the world for years to come.

**What Is LEED?**

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

**ARD building highlights:**

* Sunlight provides more than 75 percent of the lighting for occupied spaces.
* Twenty percent of the materials used were produced, manufactured or harvested locally.
* Stormwater runoff is reduced with the use of innovative porous concrete paving.
* Reclaimed water replaces potable water for landscaping irrigation and flushing toilets.
Microbe Management

You were an undergrad at NAU and are now working closely with the university. What brought you here each time?
I fell in love with the idea of going to NAU. It was out of the Valley, away from home (but not too far) and had interesting programs associated with wildlife biology, which was definitely my area of interest at the time. While I was here I met my wife, DeAnn ’93, and we moved to Phoenix after graduation. We had always longed to come back and when TGen decided to open up a branch laboratory in Flag, I jumped at the opportunity when Paul Keim offered it to me.

What was the most valuable thing you learned at NAU?
Beyond my appreciation of the scientific method and the importance of using only good data to make decisions, NAU instilled in me that the biosciences are the study of “life,” something that cannot be completely taught or learned—something not understood—in a classroom. It must be experienced. You cannot appreciate the natural history of the Upper Sonoran Desert by looking at a dead snake in a jar, and you cannot understand the dynamics of plague by just analyzing a bacterial culture in a lab. Biologists, from molecular researchers to wildlife biologists, need to conduct at least part of their research outside the artificialities of the lab to truly understand the wonders they are studying.

What is the focus of TGen North? And tell us about what you actually do.
The Translational Genomics Research Institute’s (TGen) main goal is to conduct translational research, which is essentially applied research, where the goal is to move outcomes of research from the bench to the bedside. TGen North is the pathogen genomics division of TGen, focusing on infectious diseases. We are trying to develop products using genomics technology that will help out in clinical medicine, public health and biodefense, with new diagnostic and analytical tools. My job was to come in, get the lab built, hire the talent and organize the science and research. My title is Director of Programs and Operations, but I try to get my hands in the research as much as possible.

TGen North is working closely with the FBI, which is near your facility. How is this relationship working?
We do have a good relationship with the FBI and other three-letter organizations of the government. Part of our mission is the development of the Center for Dangerous Pathogens—where we can receive samples from law enforcement agencies and perform very specific forensic assays, determining pathogens, giving the agency important information to identify the potential source.

What was your most interesting experience during your role as Arizona bioterrorism coordinator?
When I started in 2000, before 9/11 and the anthrax attacks, nobody really understood why bioterrorism was important, so we had to develop programs with minimal funding and convince people of the importance of something that wasn’t on anybody’s radar screen. In responding to potential bioterrorism or bioterror agents, we had to work with the FBI, U.S. Attorney’s Office, local police and bomb squads, [and] help them respond whether or not we had good lab information. We tried to respond appropriately but also prevent panic.

What do you value most about your experience as state epidemiologist for Arizona?
Aside from the opportunity to work with the most dedicated public servants around, the best thing was the chance to educate people from different backgrounds—from the general public to the governor—about the importance of public health and the importance of epidemiology, the science of public health. There are a lot of misconceptions and agendas out there, and not enough evidence-based decision making. My team and I tried to improve our ability to collect sound disease data, turn that data into useful information and increase the knowledge about diseases and health conditions in Arizona. My best memory is responding to an outbreak of Rocky Mountain spotted fever on the White Mountain Apache reservation.

David Engelthaler, ’91 Biology, is now working with one of the world’s foremost experts in anthrax and other dangerous infectious diseases, Paul Keim, ’77, hoping to raise public health consciousness by Krista Perkins, ’98
The disease was being spread by ticks and caused dozens of cases with several children dying. We were able to build a coalition of tribal, state and federal leaders and scientists to respond and we actually had a tremendous impact, not only on the number of cases, but on the overall living conditions in the affected area. It was a great moment in public health and I was proud to play a part in it.

The layperson can’t always distinguish an actual terror threat from media hype. How would you assess the overall threat of bioterrorism?

The specter of bioterrorism has proven both good and bad for the U.S. Yes, the threat has been overplayed in that there haven’t been any major bioterrorism attacks or related large-scale deaths. But we do know that it is feasible. There are rogue countries that have been working on bioweapons. We know that when we got attacked after 9/11 with an anthrax weapon—a very effective bullet put into an ineffective gun—it could have caused many more deaths than it did. Bioweapons have been designed to kill large numbers of humans, and we need planning and forethought to respond and hopefully prevent a bioterrorism attack. In my opinion, the threat of bioterrorism has helped this country become more prepared to deal with major disasters—but it is clear we have a long way to go.

Is there one thing you’ve learned that you would like to share?

There are very far-out scenarios, like ebola coming over to this country or the potential threat of smallpox. These stories get a lot of attention, but they are not a major public health concern. However, many people ignore the things we deal with every day that are very important, such as influenza, bacterial meningitis, staph infections, Valley fever. We see tens of thousands of cases and deaths due to infectious disease every year. We need to stop being so complacent about getting flu vaccines, washing our hands frequently, and dealing with basic sanitation and safety concerns. These realities may not be “sexy,” but everybody can work together to fix them, and to make our communities healthier and safer.

What keeps you up at night?

[Laughing.] My 16-month-old son. Seriously, in this line of work we are trained to deal with the things we know and prepare to make our best judgments based on the data and evidence. Keep moving forward and make sure that tomorrow we will be more prepared than today; otherwise one can get paralyzed by the fear of the unknown. Truly, this has been my mantra.

Sound Bites:

“Public health is still an area that is under-recognized and underappreciated.”

“One of TGen’s goals is to develop tools and products that public health workers can use to solve daily problems.”

“We have partners in different countries as well as in our backyard.”

“We actually have use of the biosafety level 3 facilities at the new ARD building at NAU, and look to utilize each other’s strengths.”

NAU alums at TGen North (50% of the staff!)

Dr. Paul Keim, ’77
David Engelthaler, ’91
Dr. Lance Price, ’94 & ’00
Josh Colvin, ’00
Elizabeth Driebe, ’97
Erin Kelly, ’06
Sergey Kuchar, ’05 & ’07
Alyssa Smith, ’06
On one April weekend, two long-awaited reunions morphed the NAU Theatre Department into a vibrant scene of nostalgia and camaraderie. The First Act had set the stage with the religious rites of prehistoric man, tying theatre back to its roots in ancient Egypt and classical Greece, and even the modern Christian liturgy retaining strong theatrical elements. The Second Act, as reported by J. Gordon Greene, NAU Theatre Faculty 1973-77, continued the theme.

Theatre began in the religious rites of prehistoric man. It was an integral part of the religious ceremonies of ancient Egypt and classical Greece; and even the modern Christian liturgy retains strong theatrical elements. So perhaps it was a natural role for 1970s theatre graduate Rev. Curtis Miner to start preaching about the need for a mid-to-late-'70s-era departmental reunion. He urged, cajoled, encouraged and would not be denied. Finally, in April, with the assistance of classmates and professional guidance from the NAU Alumni Office, Rev. Miner's dream was realized. And once again, as it has for so long, theatre served as a transcendent way of bringing people together.

Hailing from as far as New York and as near as Oregon and California, alumni enjoyed campus and theatre tours, saw an NAU student production of *The Grapes of Wrath*, and had their own highly entertaining form of "dinner theatre" at the Saturday evening banquet. While watching slides from NAU Remembering Stephen Glenn Hild, although he taught at NAU for less than a decade, Stephen Glenn Hild made a spectacular impression on many students in his role as technical director and tech theatre instructor. Steve died Oct. 1, 1991. Theatre reunion attendees are asking those who knew him to consider making an annual contribution to the Steve Hild Theatre Endowment Fund, with a goal of reaching $25,000 by 2012 and awarding a $1,000 scholarship to a theatre design student. Alumni can learn more and chat at alumnus Ricky Grove’s Facebook website, http://www.facebook.com/p.php?i=719951706&amp;k=11c4986d55. To contribute directly, please contact the NAU Foundation at 928-523-2012 and mention fund 1534.

Mountain Campus into both a stage and an arena.

**Toasting with Cold Puck**

(As reported by Doug Allan, ’81 B.S., ’02 M.Ed, in his own idiosyncratic style)

It was good to have a bunch of fine hockey folks around Flagstaff in April to inaugurate the Billy “Woody” Wood Memorial NAU Hockey Alumni Tournament. Here are some highlights from the Fabulous Flagtown Forum:

* Team Conk, led by Steve Conklin, ’92 & ’95, won the championship by beating Team Dennis. Brother Conk was smiling like a Cheshire Cat as he accepted the venerable Caple Cup.
* Arizona Fox Sports News reporter Kevin “Cabers” McCabe, ’81 B.A., the slim and erstwhile KNAU sports maverick, actually made an appearance ... he arrived in time for a Team Dennis tilt and even played in the crunch time of the playoffs.
* Some Lumberjacks from the early years, John “Beardo” Molenar, ’76 B.S., Billy “Sutch” Sutter, ’83 B.S., and Minnesota native Bobby Lenberg, played exceptionally well and represented their era very well, too.
* If we had chosen to select an MVP, the award would have gone to goaltender Ryno Thomson, who is currently a Sun Valley (Idaho) Sun. He must have stopped 60 to 70 shots a game. Goalies in the 3-on-3 format see a lot of rubber.
* The only varsity-era guy was Blair “Lars” Larson, ’87 B.S.E., who was on injured reserve and couldn’t suit up.

* Kevin Quigley, ’93 B.A., Flagtown’s answer to Dan Fogelberg and Peter Frampton, rose to the occasion and performed a stirring rendition of the national anthem over the rink’s PA system.
* There were no serious injuries, although one Team Dennis player said he had a bad back, but felt he would be back to normal upon “seeing his bride.”

**Editor’s notes for the uninitiated:** the late Billy M. “Woody” Wood was a beloved NAU ice hockey and U.S. bandy player. The “Caple Cup” is named for Dr. Gerald Caple, a former college hockey player and NAU chemistry professor, hockey club advisor and coach. For the complete tournament report, please visit naualumni.com/07hockeyreunion.

Holmes, Molenar, Sutter, Fischenich, Hallberg, Allan and Casey Hallberg.

NAU’s hockey family reunited to launch the “Woody” Wood Memorial tournament.

* Brian “Shadow” Smith (l.) and his stepson Danny Dowling.

* Billy “Sutch” Sutter (l.) and Doug Allan.

**For the uninitiated:**
1950s
Sam Borozan, ’57 B.S., ’61 M.A., ’67 M.A., made it to the Golden Graduates reunion (p. 7) in time to march at Commencement. Shortly afterwards, he offered one of his inimitable recollections: “When I arrived on the ASC/NAU campus in 1953, every student was required to obtain a monthly meal ticket. Many students traveled home to small towns on weekends. But if you weren’t on campus on weekends, you weren’t given an option in the meal plan. And usually there were no seconds on such staples as milk and bread. So, during the fall of 1956, a group of students formulated a plan to go on a food strike, like those sweeping colleges and universities across the country.

“Our plan was simple: We organized every dorm except for married housing, and on Dec. 12, 1956, we instituted the food strike. No one would eat until President Lacey Eastburn met with the organizers to discuss needed changes. We notified The Arizona Republic and KTAR, the biggest Phoenix radio station. The news of our strike and demands spread throughout the state and nation. Concerned parents called members of the Arizona Board of Regents to register their concerns. Three days later, the committee met with Dr. Eastburn … and it was over. The fall saw big changes, as a food service company took over dining.

“Upon my return from Christmas vacation, I was summoned to the President’s office. The meeting was short and sweet: Dr. Eastburn informed me that if I was caught walking on the grass or spitting on the sidewalk, my college career at ASC was over! Fifty years later, when I’m on campus, I still walk on the sidewalk.”

1960s
James L. Pughsey, ’63 B.S., has been named executive director of

Not Business as Usual
Martin Goslar, ’74 M.B.A., could easily have told the happy ending of his story first: He is principal analyst and founder of E-PhD LLC, a security industry research, analysis and consultation firm. Back in the 1970s, however, he was just a fledgling member of the M.B.A class of ’74, a full-time cohort group. “We studied, attended class, worked on projects and virtually lived together,” he says. “Since we were the first M.B.A. class to go through the program in the beautiful new CBA south campus facility, we felt obligated to take on a professional outlook and dedicated perspective.”

Martin adds, “As a young Army officer recently returned from the Vietnam War, I thought this group’s dedication to success — in a very intense experience — was quite impressive. [When I was] recruited into the largest bank in Chicago, my NAU training was equal to any of the MBAs I encountered at the bank and quickly enabled me to become a division manager.”

Judith L. Heasley, ’68 B.S.E.D., was selected as executive director for university advancement at Emporia State University (Kan.) and president of the ESU Foundation. She is relocating from Durango, Colo., where she served as vice president of institutional advancement for Fort Lewis College.

Keith Kimsey, ’68 B.S.E.D., and Sharon Thomson Kimsey, ’68 B.S.E.D., live in Sindic, La. A retired Army lieutenant colonel, Keith works on homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, and Sharon teaches first grade. They look forward to full retirement in a few years so they can visit their grandchildren throughout the country.

James M. Elegante, ’69 B.A., has joined Holme, Roberts & Owen LLP as a partner, focusing on commercial law and technology-related transactions. A former adjunct professor of law at the University of Turin, Italy, and Brigham Young University, he has also held teaching positions at the University of Texas in Austin and the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, as well as serving as senior legal counsel to corporate boards, executive management teams and businesses.

1970s
Jill Bemis, a.k.a. Margaret J. Dixon, ’72 B.S., has been appointed CEO of Children’s Clinics for Rehabilitative Services in Tucson. She has served in healthcare organizations since 1974 in Tucson and Phoenix, working with special populations such as the elderly, physically disabled and behavioral health patients. Also a management consultant, she is president of the National Board of Directors of Women in Health Care.

Bruce A. Gordon, ’72 B.S.B.A., was honored in New Orleans with the 2006 American Hospital Association...
Bruce A. Gordon, ’72 B.S.B.A.

Federal Health Care Executive Award for Excellence. According to the award citation, he demonstrated “remarkable leadership in providing critical relief efforts to the devastated victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita,” finding them shelter, food, medical care, and “the social, educational, and comfort needs” that could “offer residents a sense of belonging to a community.”

Marilynn S. Calkins, ’73 B.S.E.D., and W. Duane Calkins, ’74 B.S., caught us up with their busy lives in Phoenix during a chat with a student outreach caller. She is a second-grade teacher with the Deer Valley Unified School District, and he is a manager at IBM.

Doug Benford, ’74 B.A., ’78 M.Ed., an alumnus of the College of Education, has set up a new biology scholarship from the Arizona Flycasters Club, supporting a student who has a passion for biology as it relates to fish management, fisheries, or aquatic biology and conservation. Attending the Biology Scholarship Awards ceremony, Doug remarked, “I was struck by the friendliness and camaraderie shown by the students and faculty. It is still great to be a Lumberjack!”

Edward “Nippy” Feldhake, ’78 B.S.E.T., has raised over $5,000 as a member of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Team in Training. To find out more about his impressive journey for this admirable cause, visit www.active.com/donate/TnT/dms/TnTNippy.

Greg Gourley, ’78 B.S.E.D., works as director of design and engineering for SeaWorld in San Diego, where he implements and oversees all major construction projects—“all new attractions, dolphin pools and Shamu pools.”

Troy Hudson, ’79 B.S., ’81 M.S., responded to our last issue of PINE Faces with a heartfelt endorsement of full-time parenthood: “The focus is 98 percent on what people are doing in public settings. I believe being a mother or a father is the highest calling that we have and you only get a small window of opportunity to do it. I am glad I made the decision I made.” He also mentions that he is still playing basketball along with other former college athletes, and will participate in the Senior Olympics. Bravo, Troy!

1980s

Kaye Rowan Bogue, ’80 B.S., and husband Gary “are leaving the quiet countryside of Barberton, Ohio, for the thriving community of Uniontown, Ohio, in a neighborhood that borders three golf courses (Gary’s a happy man) and is a 10-minute commute to work (I’m a happy woman).” Kaye also reports that in their seven years of marriage, she and Gary have owned and leased eight horses—“so I’m asking you to make our address change in pencil.”

Eleanor Horner, ’88 B.S., sent us a fond valentine of memories, categorizing her NAU adventures as Fated Encounters. Poor Diet and Academics: “Having my first car accident in the snow ... eating lots of peanut butter sandwiches and spending my Lumberjack paychecks at Furr’s on chicken-fried steak and millionaire pie ... getting my first ‘C’ in freshman comp from Dr. Ice.” The prof needn’t have worried. Eleanor recently published a novel, Chasing the Ferryman (Rockway Press).

1990s

John Desser, ’90 B.A., has accepted a political appointment to become deputy assistant secretary for health policy at the Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C. “I am excited about the unique opportunity to assist Secretary Mike Leavitt and his team in advancing the President’s priorities in health policy.”

Mark Diamond, ’83 B.S.B.A., a veteran chef of dining establishments ranging from French One Star Michelin to his own specialty, “Free-style Mediterranean,” now teaches the art of the palate as chef instructor for the California School of Culinary Arts in Pasadena. He also offers private culinary services, including “kitchen parties” and personalized chef instruction through his Culinary Style website, www.culinaryinstructor.com. Warning: Diamond’s sample menus may lead to extreme salivation.

A charitable gift annuity with the Northern Arizona University Foundation is a smart way to simultaneously make a gift to benefit NAU and secure lifetime income for yourself and/or a loved one.

For details, contact:
David Mays
Director of Gift Planning
David.Mays@nau.edu
(888) 628-2586 Toll Free

naualumni.com | Fall 2007 19
Barbara Hahn, a.k.a. Barclay Franklin, ‘90 M.A., an author of historical fiction from Cornville, Ariz., has seven published novels to her credit. During her four-year stint teaching creative writing at Yavapai College, she saw firsthand evidence of the encroachment of the ubiquitous spell-checker on the writing process: “I got a paper from a young man who said he hoped to own a ranch and raise mares and ‘stalinists.’”

Deborah L. O'Dowd, ‘90 B.S., earned her master’s of social work at ASU, and has since been burning up the presses with publications including Poetry Made Easy and The Pack (under the pen name Nikki O’Neil). She took first place in the Arizona English Teachers Association’s “Teachers as Writers” poetry contest in 2006.

Blake Spalding, ‘90 B.S.JOUR., and Jen Castle, attended, shared a felicitous update on their restaurant, Hell’s Backbone Grill in Boulder, Ut. Not only are they featured in both the March ‘07 issue of MORE and the July ‘07 issue of Sunset, but they also have just received Salt Lake City Magazine’s 2007 Dining Award for Best Restaurant in Southern Utah. Their beautiful anecdotal cookbook, With a Measure of Grace, is in its third printing, and they are planning to publish a second book in 2009.

Aaron Stively, ‘93 B.S., has a big fan and potential press agent in “proud Dad” Mike Stively, ‘72 B.S., who writes that his son is a client business manager for AT&T in Phoenix, and “was named to the prestigious ‘Diamond Club’ of Sales Leadership, an honor bestowed on the top 1 percent of the national sales force.” Aaron lives in Gilbert, Ariz., and oversees several national accounts, including US Airways.

Todd Taylor, ‘93 B.A., ‘95 M.A., is into a truly risky business: publishing the one-of-a-kind punk rock magazine Razorcake. An ingenious nonprofit enterprise, the magazine’s mission statement proclaims it “deep in the culture it’s covering, a grassroots, DIY, in-the-underground magazine run by the very type of folks we hope to reach... Our primary goal isn’t to sell kids to other kids, but to share in our knowledge of a powerful culture that often gets misrepresented.” Find out more at www.razorcake.org.

Tim Burke, ‘94 B.S., has “gone in pursuit of dreams,” leaving the family HVAC business for the entertainment industry. He recently signed a contract as host of a talk radio show in southern California. He writes, “I would love to share the road with my friends from NAU.”

Brandon Jovanovich, ‘94 B.A., has scored a stunning artistic coup as recipient of the 2007 Richard Tucker Award. One of the most prestigious honors in classical music, the award is presented to an artist who “is on the threshold of a major international career” by the Richard Tucker Music Foundation, “perpetuating the artistic legacy of the great American tenor” by the Richard Tucker Music Foundation, “perpetuating the artistic legacy of the great American tenor” by the Richard Tucker Music Foundation.

Both spouses work for Nova Home Loans in Tucson. Matt as a loan officer and Cindy as a marketing assistant and graphic designer. “We both miss Flagstaff and try to get back to visit for Homecoming each year.” See you then, and bring the kids!

Richard E. Hall, ‘95 B.S., and Anna (Eunhwa) Heo Hall, ‘95 B.S.B.A., discovered that a good marriage can mean good business. Putting together their expertise—hers as a CPA and his as a dietitian—they became Subway franchisees, with four restaurants in the Phoenix area. “Anna runs all the accounting aspects, and I’m on the operational side.” Rick also teaches in ASU’s nutrition department and is completing his Ph.D. from Iowa State; he was named one of the Phoenix Business Journal’s “Forty Under Forty” for 2007. Anna “continues to be the best mom ever to our two kids, Bailey and Dylan.” Not a bad way to run a corporation!

Wayne Haughey, ‘95 B.S.B.A., has been honored by CIO magazine as a “2007 Ones to Watch Standout Winner.” As director of systems engineering at Pulte Homes, his “talent
for innovation has shown itself in his ability to conceive and lead projects at Pulte that drive business value of the company and break new ground in the IT-shy homebuilding industry. Read the citation at www.cio.com/cio-awards/ones-to-watch-2007.

Susan Colebank, '96 B.S., '99 M.A., is the author of Black Tuesday (Dutton Juvenile, 2007), a young adult novel about the effect of a random tragedy on your average overachieving teenager from Phoenix. Susan’s press release points out why she didn’t go to a military school, as her brothers did “because they didn’t offer fashion design.” For several more LOL tidbits and information on her work, visit www.susancolebank.com.

Thomas Morales, ‘96 B.S., writes, “In September 2006 I passed my 10th anniversary with KCOY-TV 12 and KKFX Fox 24, the CBS and FOX affiliates for California’s Central Coast region, which includes the very scenic and beautiful areas of Santa Maria, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara. I started out as a staff news videographer three months after NAU graduation, and soon found myself appointed chief videographer … I live in Grover Beach, and look forward to the next decade and beyond.”

Dawn Brown Marshall, ‘97 B.S.F., and Daniel Marshall, ‘98 B.S.E., recently celebrated their seventh wedding anniversary. She is a happy full-time mom to their son, William, and Daniel is a product engineer with Martin Engineering.

MaryAnn Merendino, ‘97 M.A.E.D., teaches in Ohio at a residential school for children who have been removed from their homes by the courts, because of abuse and other concerns. She credits alumnus Linda Elliott-Nelson, ’78 B.A., ’85 M.B.A., (featured in last winter’s PINE Faces) with helping refresh her Spanish language skills—“a significant boon to working with [Spanish-speaking] children and families”—which will be important for her upcoming work mission in Honduras.

Darwin Clauschee, ’98 B.S., has worked as both a consultant and employee for Chinite Hayoolkaal Hooghan (House of Dawn) Adolescent Treatment Center under the Navajo Nation Department of Behavioral Health Services. “We’re seeking any collaboration or assistance with willing public educators to further develop and ultimately gain accreditation for the program.” To find out more, visit www.chiniteac.org.

Mary Valentine Legler, ’98 M.E.D., a language arts and social studies sixth-grade teacher at Bradshaw Mountain Middle School in Dewey, Ariz., was “humbled” to be chosen as Yavapai County Education Foundation Teacher of the Year. A proponent of stepping outside the classroom and the textbook, she places importance on simulation, making her students part of history. “I don’t feel teaching is filling a pail, but it’s lighting a fire,” Mary says. “Kids learn better when they do.”

Susan Booth Von Borstel, ’98 M.P.A., is lead probation officer with Pima County Adult Probation.

2000s

Jake Crissup, ’00 B.S.E., works for an environmental engineering and services consulting firm in Tulsa, Okla. “My job often takes me to Big Sky country, traveling to Montana and Wyoming for DOE research projects and private industry.” He and wife Tamika and their daughter, Magnolia, live in Tulsa with dogs Sedona and Sammy. “We try to make it to at least one football game a year,” adds Jake, a Lumberjack football and basketball alum, who was awarded an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship in 2000.

Anne-Marie Compton Bauer, ’01 M.S., and husband Joseph are elated to announce the birth of their first daughter, Aurora Jolee, Feb. 16, 2006. Along with Aurora’s big brother, Dominic, the Bauers enjoy their warm lives in North Pole, Alaska, at Fort Wainwright Army Base.

Walter Begay, ’01 B.S., contacted NAU prof Richard Foust with the news that he has accepted a job offer from MWH Global, an international company providing solutions in areas from environmental engineering and power generation to laboratory services and applied science. He previously served as a source inspector and supervisor for Maricopa County.

Mark Murrow, ’01 B.S., and Beth Kammerzell Murrow, ’01 B.S.N., are having an incredible year, according to his mom, Linda Murrow, ’03 M.E.D. “Mark is graduating from the University of Arizona in Tucson at the top of his medical school class and is scheduled to do a transition, internship and residency in anesthesiology in Portland, Ore. He and Beth are also expecting their first child in September. What an accomplishment!” We think she’s got good reason to be proud.

Paul Stofko, ’01 B.S., has accelerated our resting heart rate by calmly reporting, “I ran the only 150-mile trail race in the U.S., and I was the overall winner with a time of 35 hours and 22 minutes.” Somebody get us an energy bar!

Lisa Casey, ’02 B.S., has been named executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Wisconsin, a vocation she says was sparked at NAU. As a Big Sister, she mentored a student in an “at-risk” school. “I was amazed at the difference and impact a short lunch hour spent with my Little Brother could make,” she says. “The mission and values of the organization are an inspiration.”

Joel Dean Fouser, ’02 B.S.E.D., has received a James Madison Fellowship, supporting the further study of American history by secondary school teachers. Only 97 such fellowships were awarded in 2007. Joel is a history and social studies teacher at Del Norte High School in Albuquerque, N.M.

Nancy E. Muleady-Mecham, ’03 Ph.D., has been selected by the University of Virginia to teach biology courses for their Semester at Sea program this fall. This fascinating curriculum takes place on a ship specially outfitted with classrooms, a media center, library and other student-friendly venues. With 25 professors and over 650 students, the ship will visit Hawaii, Japan, China, Vietnam, Myanmar, Egypt, Turkey, Croatia and Spain. To check Nancy’s progress, visit her website, www.wewalktheworld.com.

Melissa Baker, ‘04 B.A., ’04 B.A., wound up her first year with the Peace Corps in the village of Gazoua, Niger, West Africa. According to her mother, “Melissa is doing work in the community development/education field … she feels she has finally found her calling, and [may] take on

discipline.

Paul Stofko, ’01 B.S., and wife Rachel

Lisa Casey, ’02 B.S., another two-year contract—though she is also contemplating an NGO position that would give her more ‘power’ to help.”

Jeff Becker, ’04 B.S.B.A., noticed a certain synchronicity in our recent article on NAU’s new High Country Conference Center: “I thought it was interesting how some projects incorporate alumni without [your] realizing it. Border Construction Specialties is responsible for supplying every brick on the outside of the conference center, parking garage and hotel. I’m Flagstaff operations manager, and my brother-in-law Ryan Gearhart, ’00 B.S.B.A., is in outside sales; Doug Humphrey, ’76 B.S.B.A., is corporate sales manager. We’re all alumni proud to be helping service the growth of our alma mater.”

Frank Kardasz, ’05 E.D., was co-recipient of the January 2007 Child Defender of the Month award from the National Law Center for Children and Families. He is project director for the Arizona Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

naualumni.com | Fall 2007
Alumni


Carl W. Simmons, ’51 B.S.B.A., Jan. 31, 2006. WWII Navy veteran, photographing enemy territory. After earning his M.B.A. from the University of Denver, spent 35 years with Richfield Oil Co./Arco. A spiritual man, he loved his family and enjoyed antiques, cooking and Bible discussion.

Johnny Wayne Tissaw, ’52 B.S.E.D., ’56 M.S., Feb. 16, 2007, from emphysema. Coach and mentor of athletes, particularly boys varsity high school basketball. Coach Canyon del Oro High School teams to state championship wins in ’77-78. Inducted into Pima County Sports Hall of Fame and Arizona Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Spent summers as park ranger at Grand Canyon with his beloved family.

Lawrence Martin Davis, ’53 B.A., ’55 M.A.E.D., April 22, 2007. U.S. Marine Corps veteran. After earning his doctorate from University of Arizona, he was an English professor at NAU for more than 20 years. Former chair of the Coconino County Republican Party.


Joseph O. Tittle, ’60 B.S.B.A., Jan. 14, 2007, from cancer. Labor relations expert, with the majority of his career at the Salt River Project. After retirement, taught labor relations for Ottawa University, Chair of SRP’s Political Information Committee, served on the boards of Goodwill and CODAMA; volunteered with Mended Hearts Association and MADD. An avid reader, deeply beloved by his family.


Bert H. Purdy Jr., ’68 B.S., April 1, 2007. Lifetime resident of Las Vegas, working with the IRS for 27 years and then opening his own tax consulting practice. Volunteer with the Sunrise Hospital Emergency Room, First Christian Church and local PTA.


Jae F. Wright, ’69 B.S.B.A., Jan. 2, 2007. Saginaw, Mich., resident worked in sales with Burroughs Corp. and Standard Register; owned and operated American Speedy Printing. Relocated to Redmond, Wash., where he was a member of Kiwanis and All Saints Lutheran Church.

Alvin Ray Blevins, ’70 M.S., Dec. 8, 2006, from complications of Lewy body disease. Served with distinction as a medic in Korea, receiving the Army’s Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant. Taught for 45 years at elementary and high schools in California, and after retirement helped people obtain high school equivalency diplomas; dedicated to teaching in Christian schools.


Joseph Charles Feldman, ’86 M.A.E.D., May 7, 2007. Taught psychology, counseling, human sexuality and parenting at Phoenix College, Ottawa University and the University of Phoenix. An antiwar activist in the ’60s and ’70s, ticket holder at Woodstock and an ordained minister, he performed many weddings and read the tarot. He was also a licensed professional counselor and massage therapist, and worked for 20 years at Planned Parenthood of Central and Northern Arizona.

Margie Lou Watson, ’87 M.A.E.D., April 28, 2007. Librarian for 35 years in the Mayer, Ariz., school district, mentoring many children and pursuing a lifelong love of learning, particularly reading.

Gerhard Grytz, ’95 M.A., Feb. 10, 2007. Ambulance driver in the German army, and professional basketball player with Britain’s Cardiff Central team. Assistant history professor at University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. A popular classroom instructor and passionate researcher, studying census records...
to see how immigrants affected their chosen destinations.

Barbara J. Shields, ’96 M.ED., Jan. 12, 2007, from cancer. Spent 15 dedicated years as an educator with Cave Creek Unified School District, most notably at Desert Willow Elementary School.

Ryan Joseph Lancaster, ’97 B.S., April 23, 2007, victim of an automobile accident. A dedicated teacher for the last five years at South Mountain High School in Phoenix, who loved sports, traveling, history and his extended family and friends.

Amy Lynn Silverberg, ’03 B.S.ED., Jan. 7, 2007, graduated with honors from NAU, receiving the Gold Axe award. As a reading specialist with the Litchfield Elementary School District, she touched many lives with her warm and loving personality.

Tiffanie Renee Lewis, ’05 B.A., April 17, 2007, while studying for her master's degree in counseling at the University of Phoenix, she worked at Prehab of Arizona (Autumn House) with domestic violence victims.


Amy Lynn Silverberg, ’03 B.S.ED., Jan. 7, 2007, graduated with honors from NAU, receiving the Gold Axe award. As a reading specialist with the Litchfield Elementary School District, she touched many lives with her warm and loving personality.

Tiffanie Renee Lewis, ’05 B.A., April 17, 2007, while studying for her master’s degree in counseling at the University of Phoenix, she worked at Prehab of Arizona (Autumn House) with domestic violence victims.


Amy Lynn Silverberg, ’03 B.S.ED., Jan. 7, 2007, graduated with honors from NAU, receiving the Gold Axe award. As a reading specialist with the Litchfield Elementary School District, she touched many lives with her warm and loving personality.

Tiffanie Renee Lewis, ’05 B.A., April 17, 2007, while studying for her master’s degree in counseling at the University of Phoenix, she worked at Prehab of Arizona (Autumn House) with domestic violence victims.

What’s on Your Wall?

How deep does NAU run in your bloodline? Do you and your wife have matching Old Main diploma frames adorning the wall of your study? Are you proud of your NAU daughter-mother-grandmother trifecta? Alumni often tell us how thrilled they are to have several generations of NAU graduates in their family. And we started to wonder which NAU family holds the record for NAU/ASC/ASTC/NANS degrees.

As part of our 83rd annual Homecoming celebration, the NAU Alumni Association is sponsoring the NAU Nth Degree contest for the family group with the greatest number of family members who graduated from or attended Northern Arizona University. The winning family will be part of a special presentation at this year’s Homecoming, October 27, and each family member will receive a bonus prize.

**Homecoming Family Bonus**
Stop by and visit the NAUAA’s Homecoming tailgate spot from noon to 3 p.m. in the Skydome parking lot. We’ll shoot a keepsake NAU Nth Degree Family Legacy photo, which also will be printed in an upcoming issue of PINE.*

*If you can’t make it to Flagstaff for Homecoming, please send us your own NAU Nth Degree Family Legacy photo for our website photo gallery. Mail to NAU Office of Alumni Relations, PO Box 6034, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-6034, or email alumni@nau.edu.

NAU Nth Degree Contest Rules
1. We will need to be able to verify attendance. Please submit as much information as possible about each family member—middle name or initials, maiden or other names, and years attended are particularly useful for us in tracking down records.
2. Attendance counts. Entrants do not have to be degree program graduates, as long as they were enrolled at NAU. (But extra points are awarded to degree holders.)
3. In-laws and extended families count. The more the merrier.
4. We love family trees. You’ll get extra points for sending us a “genealogical” chart.

Remember to visit naualumni.com/Homecoming2007 for an updated listing of Homecoming events!