

Fall '06: Plenty to Celebrate

NEW THOUGHTS ABOUT THE BIG THREE

—By *Micheline Maynard '00*

Driving around Michigan these days is like being in a rolling time capsule. There are more American cars here than anywhere else in the country. We may as well be living in 1960, when 90% of the vehicles bought in Michigan were built by the Big Three—GM, Ford and Chrysler. Today, that number still holds.

The rest of the country, however, is living in 2006, where the original Big Three no longer reign supreme. This year, Ford announced it's closing 25 plants and cutting 44,000

jobs—essentially ceding second place in the American car market to Toyota. In 1960, Toyota sold one car model in the United States. Today, Toyota sells almost as many vehicles here as General Motors, which is twice as big. Now it looks like the Big Three will be GM, Toyota and Ford.

How did this

happen? The auto industry has changed because American consumers have changed. Look, for example, at toothpaste. Back in the 1960s, most American families used either Crest or Colgate. My family used Crest, which looked exactly the same for its first 25 years. Then in 1980, Crest debuted its first variation, Tartar Control Crest—the first of an onslaught of choices and varieties. Now, different types of Crest take up a quarter aisle at Target.

Similarly, in 1960, there were essentially three competing American car companies and Toyota was barely a blip on the map. The best-selling foreign car was the Volkswagen Beetle. Today, there are more than 26 companies selling cars in the U.S., offering hundreds of models. As a result, Detroit's grip on the car market is weakening every day.

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Cartoon by Milt Priggee '01

REUNION—FUN AND FUNDS

—By *Steve Fennessy '07*

Mike Wallace wore a grin wider than the brim of Charles Eisendrath's fedora when he took the stage of an Ann Arbor ballroom on a Saturday afternoon this past September, during the Knight-Wallace Fellowship Reunion and Milestone Celebration. In front of him, a sea of alumni milled about, nursing pre-prandial drinks, catching up with old friends and making new ones. The official

program didn't call for an appearance by Wallace until later, but evidently there was something that needed saying that just couldn't wait. Seeing him waiting impatiently for a microphone, it seemed the weekend was about to get even better.

Which was a tall order. From the moment KWFF alumni began arriving in Ann Arbor, the weekend promised to be a

memorable one. First there was the weather. Late summer can be a mixed bag in Michigan, but the reunion skies were made to order—puffy clouds lifted from a "Simpsons" episode, days warmed by sunlight streaming through leafy trees, evenings cool and crisp.

Then there was Eisendrath's Big Announcement made 33 years after the inaugural Fellowship class came to Michigan, and 20 years after he took the reins of a program that was then on shaky financial footing. On Friday afternoon, in the sun-dappled backyard of Wallace House, Eisendrath announced to a standing-room-only crowd that as of 2006 the 12 American Fellowships are fully endowed. A standing ovation followed.

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UM President Mary Sue Coleman and Hovey Speaker Micheline Maynard '00 connect after the lecture.



Mike Wallace calls for a THUNDEROUS ROUND for Charles Eisendrath.

From the Head Fellow

—By Charles R. Eisendrath '75

'06: 20 YEARS GETTING TO KNOW YOU

The fabulous news about Reunion '06 was how many showed up to celebrate full endowment of the core program for American Fellows. The merely terrific news were the rave reviews for Micki Maynard's Hovey Lecture and Prof. Ralph Williams' inspired melding of the Classical with the contemporary, and still further appreciation for alumni panels that reflected tomorrow's light back on today's Fellowship experience. Not to mention the KICK-ASS rock dance Saturday and a Sunday barbecue brunch—by Dan Huntley and Lisa Lednicer of '03—that I have taken to calling “no morsel left behind.”

Yes, ye Michigan weather-doubters, even the sky cooperated.

In this issue, Steve Fennessy '07 provides public highlights of the weekend. I have some insights from an inside perspective:

One hundred and thirty five Fellows and spouses came “home,” including nearly 20 percent of those from my watch. That meant a lot. In addition to the public events, Julia and I were privately celebrating my 20th year building the program, and our shared privilege in getting to know so many memorable people. “Memorable” here is no throwaway term. For the first time in both our lives, we actually remembered names. Scores of them. Effortlessly. This is the right place to repeat out loud what I think all the time: We love what we learn from Fellows each year, while that bunch thinks *they* are doing all the learning.

And now a bit of business for those who couldn't be in Ann Arbor, and a reminder for those who were. The other side of reunions is recruiting. I hope you take seriously that the continued vibrancy of the program depends entirely on the qual-

ity of its participants. Equally serious is the responsibility of former Fellows for shepherding the best people toward Wallace House. Consider, as I must, the crisis in the business that scares many away from applying and the cutbacks in support for them when they do. Consider also the proliferation of fellowships and other mid-career training and the chal-



Mike Wallace folds himself into Charles' '64 Morgan after a day of reunion celebrations.

lenges to the core values of our profession.

Taking note, several years ago we began targeting alumni to hand-carry favorite colleagues through the application process, and it worked. In the class of '05, nine of 12 Americans came to us that way; in '06, seven. This is not to imply automatic acceptance or favored status for those recommended by someone we know. It decidedly does suggest that, unsurprisingly, KWF alumni know what our program looks for. Fortunately, they also understand when the program fails to accommodate someone they've brought to it.

If you'd like us to send brochures/applications to you, or directly to others, let us know. If you think something different should be stressed on our materials or the Web site, tell us that, too. It is also important to reassure you that we are not having trouble with the number of applicants,

which remains steady at about 120. Simply put, we want to consider the maximum number of people like you because we know from experience that they are likely to appeal to the admissions committee, make the most of a Fellowship and go on to make American journalism the better for their experience at Michigan.

Patron saint Mike Wallace takes the role seriously. He makes key recruiting calls, gives seminars to the Fellows at Wallace House and hosts them individually in New York. This fall he worked overtime in the saint business. Between our Reunion in September and late November he had already fit in three pilgrimages to Ann Arbor, one of them a banner headline occasion for KWF, to wit:

Picture a perfect football Saturday with 111,000 gathered for the Michigan State game. Picture a televised stadium balcony appearance *à la* Evita Peron. The roar when Wallace spread his arms in the classic orator's embrace of the multitude and yelled “BRING ON OHIO STATE!” was truly a thing of awe, if no particular shock. Of course, 111,000 people don't roar on cue without a buildup. The audience prep couldn't have been better because it included an audiovisual presentation that was part sales pitch, part family album.

Scoreboards two stories high at each end of the stadium showed pictures of Wallace House and scenes from this year's program while the game announcer read a script by Karl Bates '98, describing KWF and, in tones otherwise reserved for Wolverine touchdowns, ended with “Mike and the Knight-Wallace Fellowships are celebrating full endowment of the core program at \$46 million dollars!”

For Julia and me, standing just behind Mike on the balcony, that's what the roar was all about. It was quite a moment. Have a look at it on the website.

Grillin' It Up, KWF-Style

—By Steve Fennessy '07

Ford Fessenden '90 had it right. Late Sunday morning of reunion weekend, *The New York Times* newsman dropped by the backyard of Wallace House, which had been transformed from bucolic redoubt into Pork Palace. Poultry Paradise. Hog Heaven. Insert cholesterolic cliché here. Through the haze of hickory smoke—where, for the past 36 hours, 200-odd pounds of meat had been lovingly examined, sniffed, rubbed, split, chopped, marinated, soaked, smoked, grilled, photographed, leered at, nibbled on, tended to, and droolingly coveted—Fessenden made a simple announcement: “I hope everyone remembered to take their Lipitor.”

The architects of the feast were Dan Huntley and Lisa Lednicer, two members of the class of '03. The pair make an unlikely culinary duo: Huntley is a Southern boy whose day job is columnist at the *Charlotte Observer*, and Lednicer reports on city government and transportation for the *Oregonian*, 2,775 miles away in Portland. Geographically divided, they are nevertheless bound by their love of good food, especially barbecuing. And no, not a burger-on-a-gas-grill kind of barbecue (in which case, why don't you just cook it on your stove-top, for God's sake?), but



Grillers unite: Seth Sutel '03, Lisa Lednicer '03, Ford Fessenden '90, Steve Fennessy '07 and Dan Huntley '03, “The Pig Man.”

a true wood-fired, marinade-mixed, smoked-for-hours indulgence.

So enamored are Lednicer and Huntley of the *al fresco* cooking experience that they have collaborated on a book due next spring from Chronicle Books. Called *Extreme Barbecue: Smokin' Rigs and 100 Real-Good Recipes*, the book took the duo across the country, scouting out the most elaborate and ingenious ways lovers

key props were donated by Charles Eisendrath, whose love of barbecue is so intense that not only is *Extreme Barbecue* dedicated to him, but he is also the holder of a patent for a device he dubbed The Grillery. The Grillery is, as you might expect, a grill. But it puts the dreck available at Home Depot to shame. Inspired by South American set-ups, The Grillery boasts a wheel that adjusts the level of the

of barbecue have found to turn a simple rack of ribs into a gustatory experience that would make James Beard weep with joy.

“The truth is, this never would have happened if I hadn't come here for the Fellowship and met Dan,” Lednicer explained, as she wiped her fingers on her apron.

While Lednicer and Huntley lent the reunion barbecue their professional services,

cooking surface, while V-shaped channels set at an angle send the juices to a collection tray. “It really is an amazing thing,” Huntley said as he lowered the grid to move the ribs closer to the flames.

Meanwhile, with no Lipitor available, Fessenden had opted for a Heineken instead and got to work chopping ribs. It was almost time to eat. ▀

Graham Griffith '06 and Jason Tanz '05 lead the pack in loading up on barbecue.





Jack Kresnak '90, Caroline Coco '75S, John Collier '75 meet at the Hovey Lecture.

Among those in the crowd was Jack Kresnak '90, who didn't have to drive far for the reunion. Kresnak has worked at the *Detroit Free Press* for 37 years, half that time spent covering juvenile justice issues. He was 39 when he was chosen as a Fellow, and coming to Ann Arbor that year he suffered from a malady that afflicts many of us—a nagging insecurity, the feeling that he was “faking it.” The Fellowship, Kresnak explained reunion weekend, instilled in him the confidence to realize and foster his own potential. “It gave me the courage to do good work,” he said. And sure enough, in 2005 Kresnak won the Toni House Journalism Award for his stories covering the court system.

Kresnak's tale wasn't unusual. As

Michael Vitez '95 tells Chuck Smith '06S and Marzio Mian '02 about his now-published book.



the weekend went on, the transformative effect of eight months at the University of Michigan as a Knight-Wallace Fellow (or spouse) was evident in virtually every conversation. Take Michael Vitez '95, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* writer who won a Fellowship after his third try. At Michigan, he took astrophysics, ice skating classes, and learned to play the Michigan fight song on his



Professor Ralph Williams makes the classics matter in today's world of journalism.

trombone. Two years after his return to the *Inquirer*, Vitez wrote a series on aging that earned him a Pulitzer Prize in Explanatory Journalism. Vitez's experience is invoked often by Eisendrath as proof that the KWF formula (dream big, indulge your passions, and great things will happen) may work in unpredictable ways, but it definitely works.

While some alumni have moved on to other professions, most have stayed in journalism. It was to those former Fellows that Ralph Williams—much-beloved Michigan professor of English—addressed his talk on Saturday morning in the Wallace House backyard. Eisendrath introduced him as “one of the best teachers that has ever walked a

campus anywhere.” But what could a Shakespeare expert have to say to a bunch of reporters? A lot, it turns out.

Williams, a lanky Canadian whose booming voice probably woke up the ladies in the sorority house next door, came to talk to us about Proteus, the Greek sea-god who could change his shape at will. “The task,” Williams said, “was to hang on to Proteus until he returned to his original shape.” In today's spin-saturated world, he continued, it is the role of journalists to wrestle with the protean nature of the powerful, until what emerges isn't just a pile of facts, but a picture of truth.

“What I'm urging is that in your own time—in a time when I see a considerable oppression in speech—you let it be known that we were here,” he encouraged. He read passages from Ovid, Shakespeare, Tim O'Brien and French writer Irène Némirovsky, who perished in the Holocaust, to show how a lived reality can be

reflected with words. He even drew allusions to today's political climate by evoking Brutus, Julius Caesar's trusted lieutenant who agonizes over whether to kill his friend in Shakespeare's infamous play. Explained Williams: “Brutus is asking, ‘Is pre-emptive strike a good idea? A bad idea? Do you execute for intent or thought, or do you execute for action?’ The great irony is that in killing Julius Caesar, Brutus brings about the very tyranny he'd hoped to avoid.”

“There's a great deal happening on our watch,” Williams concluded. “And it is a moral watch, and the struggle with Proteus is profound. The struggle is hard. So fight hard, so you can say, ‘I was here, and I spoke.’”

One of those journalists speaking out—but mostly listening, as the best reporters do—is Dan Gillmor '87, a former business columnist with the *San Jose*



Ford Fessenden '90, Dan Gillmor '87 and Faye Flam '05 compare notes on new media.

Mercury-News and the author of the book, *We the Media: Grassroots Journalism by the People, for the People*. In 2005, Gillmor quit his newspaper job and has since started the Center for Citizen Media, whose goal is to encourage grassroots journalism and citizen participation in the media. On Saturday afternoon of the reunion weekend, Gillmor talked about his eight months as a Fellow and recalled an epiphany he had a month into his Fellowship.

"It was a perfect October morning, in the middle of Indian summer. I was hurrying through the main quad, on my way to class. In my backpack there was a book I'd wanted to read. I thought, 'I'd rather sit down right here and read this book than go to class.' Which I did. But that wasn't the epiphany. The epiphany was that nobody cared. That moment freed my mind," he explained.

To Gillmor, the most enlightening moments of his Fellowship came not in

the classroom, but through realizations that both strengthened and humbled his ego. "Going away may threaten some careers, but it's really good for people to realize that, although they're absent for eight months, their organization is just fine without them. The Fellowship is an antidote to thinking too highly about yourself."

On Saturday afternoon, the alumni gathered in a ballroom of the Palmer Commons, not far from Wallace House. For football fans, however, the timing couldn't have been worse. At that very moment, some 180 miles to the southwest, the Michigan football team was going up against the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. Upsetting the Number 2-ranked Irish in South Bend—the first road game of the year—would shoot the Wolverines up the national rankings. So between sips of wine and loads of shop talk, the same question kept popping up: Anybody know the score?

Enter Mike Wallace and his very pressing announcement. The score, the

Toss your hats and stamp your feet! Endowment went over the top!





Board members David E. Davis, Jr., Peter Osnos '74, Clarence Page and Mike Wallace prepare to discuss where journalism is going with alumni Dan Gillmor '87, Marzio Mian '02, Yvonne Simons '03 and Ellen Soeteber '89.

1939 UM graduate announced with a smile from the stage, was 20-7. And that was still in the first quarter! A few hours later, when word came down that UM had routed the Irish 47-21, even the sports agnostics joined in the cheers.

The ebullience was quickly tempered by the first panel leading up to dinner. Titled "Journalism—Bottoming Out or Climbing Back?", it included such luminaries as Wallace, *Chicago Tribune* columnist Clarence Page, *Automobile* founder David E. Davis, Jr., and Ellen Soeteber, who resigned in 2005 as editor of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* after Pulitzer sold the paper and Soeteber was forced to cut staff by 15 percent. The panel's consensus was

grim. Newspapers and TV news are being gutted in order to keep profit margins high, which weakens the product, alienating readers and viewers. The vicious cycle is an old story. "Too many editors are having to figure out how just to maintain mediocrity," Soeteber said. "I don't know of any business that's prospered by offering less to customers for the same price—or even higher prices."

Those who made their careers in print have seen the writing on the wall. "Print is in a state of collapse," said Davis, Jr., who has started an e-zine for car enthusiasts called *Winding Road*. "It's not a happy time to be in this business."

Still, the consensus was clear: giving

customers a superior product and turning a profit aren't mutually exclusive concepts. "Who knows?" said Peter Osnos '74, founder of PublicAffairs publishing. "Forty years from now, people might be sitting here saying, 'Can you believe that the largest audience today is for a newspaper?' Why? 'Cause it's a damn good newspaper!' Who would have believed that?"

The topic of the second and final panel was a welcome counterpoint to the first—"Moving and Shaking, Post-Fellowship." Alumni such as Chris Carey '06 and Dave Farrell '93 talked of how they've exploited niches opened up by the fragmentation of conventional media. After leaving the *Detroit News*, Farrell started an electronic clip sheet and pores over dozens of newspapers every day, looking for mentions of his clients, which he and his staff then assemble and forward to the clients. Carey's new initiative is Sharesleuth.com, an online muckraking news site that investigates corporate fraud. Not even a year old, Sharesleuth.com is underwritten by Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, whom Carey emailed last year on a whim. "I feel like the guy who got the golden ticket," Carey said, echoing a feeling familiar to anyone who's ever received that call in May telling them they're a Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellow. ▸

Tickled—Ben Davis '92, David Farrell '93 and Michelle Genese '02 appreciate a co-panelist.



—New Thoughts, continued from page 1

Three years ago, I wrote a book called *The End of Detroit*. At that time, the Big Three had 61% of the car market, down almost 30% from 1960. I predicted that if current trends continued, Detroit and foreign companies would divide the market 50–50 by 2010. By July of this year, the market was divided into 52% for Detroit and 48% for imports. The Big Three that month were GM, Toyota and Ford. Coming in at number four? Honda.

So how did Detroit lose 38% of the car market? Part of it was self-inflicted, but we also have to look to ourselves. What does the automobile industry reflect about America? Three key ideas. One, the role of women in society and as consumers. Two, that we buy cars when we want them, not when we need them. Three, that we have many more ways to spend our time and money other than on automobiles.

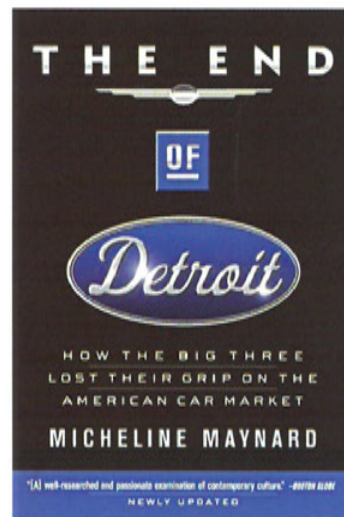
The popularity of Japanese cars in the U.S. can be summed up in one word: women. Conventional wisdom holds that people buy Japanese cars for quality, reliability and a variety of models. But Toyota and Honda wouldn't be where they are today without the rise in influence of women buyers. Thirty years ago, when many car companies began measuring the role women play in the car market, women had direct influence in only 28% of car purchases—meaning either they made the decision to buy, or were consulted by someone in their family who made the purchase. Buying a car back then was a man's job.

During the 1970s and 1980s, women entered the workplace in record numbers and by 1990, buying cars was no longer just up to the guys. Women played a role in 52% of car purchases, and were left out of the process only 1/3 of the time. In other words, women had economic power. By 2005, women participated in 81% of all car-buying decisions, and men were the sole decision-makers just 4% of the time.

When women buy cars, they look for reliability, quality and safety features. They're also more interested in fuel economy as they typically earn less than men.

And the appearance of the car is not actually as important to women as it is to men. Japanese cars tend to fit the bill nicely.

Another byproduct of women entering the car market is increased expectation about our vehicles' performance. When I was a little girl in the 1960s, on Saturday mornings my dad and I would go off on adventures—to the car wash, the Army-Navy surplus store and to Arlan's



Department Store, where he would go through the cutout bin looking for 99 cent records to add to his vast collection. When we came home, dad went out to the garage and spent hours working on his Chevrolet Impala. For years, I thought he enjoyed working on his car. But I came to realize he wasn't working on it for fun—he was working on it because he had to. And if he didn't do the work, he'd take it into the shop, as so many people did for so many years.

Today, few of us spend our time that way. An informal poll of ten of my male colleagues at *The New York Times* revealed that—except for minor repairs, like changing an oil filter or refilling the washer fluid—none of them works on his own car. Their cars don't often need repairs but when they do, they go to the dealer. And generally, the only time their cars go in is for routine maintenance. I think this informal and admittedly very specialized sample reflects what's going on elsewhere.

As recently as 1980, 86% of people bought a new car because their current vehicle was on its last legs. In 2005, only 16% of consumers bought a new car out of ne-

cessity. Today, we buy new cars because we want them, not because we need them.

But where does a new car rank on our list of desires? In 1985, cars were number three on our wish list, behind long foreign vacations and new homes. Today, cars rank number nine, far behind new furniture, long vacations, upgrading our houses and home electronics.

If the old adage is true—we are what we drive—then today we have split personalities. There are now more cars on the road than there are licensed drivers. One-third of households in this country have two or more cars. And more than half of cars sold in the U.S. were to single buyers, not families. In other words, we don't have to choose one car, one SUV, one pickup truck anymore—we can pick two, three or even four vehicles that reflect our wants, our needs, our personalities.

And when we get around to choosing our cars, we know more about them than ever before, thanks to the Internet. That, as much as anything else, has made us the most demanding consumers in history. We walk into car dealerships knowing as much or even more than the people selling cars. Web sites like Edmunds.com let us compare five cars and get 450 different pieces of information about each car.

That means we never have to trust a car company again—and it means that car companies now have to earn our business by proving that they deserve it. They can't assume you'll pick them, the way Crest could once count on us to buy their toothpaste because our only other options were Colgate and, perhaps, Pepsodent.

One last question lingers: Is what has happened to Detroit an American tragedy? It is for those who took a job at Ford expecting the equivalent of a civil service position, where they could stay until they retired with wonderful healthcare benefits and a fat pension. But if that situation led to cars not built as well as their Japanese counterparts—and if those Japanese automakers are now employing Americans at their plants in Kentucky and Alabama and Texas—maybe what has happened is not so much a tragedy as it is a reflection of America. ▀

Reunion Weekend September 15-17, 2006



▲ Peter Osnos '74, Mike Wallace and Charles trade stories.



Provost Teresa Sullivan welcomes the audience at the Hovey Lecture.



▲ No morsel left behind: mixing it up at the Sunday barbecue.



Schmoozing and networking between ▲ panel discussions on Saturday evening.



Patron saint with disciples of '07. ▲



Thomas Kamilindi '06 of Rwanda ▲ yucks it up with Yonette Joseph '07.



▲ KWF Administrator Birgit Rieck takes a hug from Steve Fennessy '07, John Bacon '06 and Anthony Brooks '07.

Mike Wallace congratulates donor LaVerne Prager on funding Gady Epstein, "her" Fellow of '07. ▼



▼ Director Emeritus Graham Hovey takes a standing ovation.

Julia Eisendrath '75S reminisces with classmates Charlie Wolfson '75 and his wife Nancy '75S.



Italian gallantry: ▲ '02 classmates Marzio Mian and Michelle Genese enjoy the weekend "spa for the soul," as he put it.



◀ Impromptu round table discussion.



▲ True blue KWF baby: Drew Hoover was only four months old when her mother, Cynthia Barnett '05, brought her to Ann Arbor for the Fellowship.



"We're jamming!" Paul Wilborn '99 takes the stage by storm. ▶

◀ Charles calls on George Bedard and the Kingpins to let the good times roll.



Birgit Rieck

Our Great Geniuses

John U. Bacon '06 has recently been hired as the Writer in Residence for UM's Lloyd Hall Scholars Program. In addition, Bacon is teaching The History of College Athletics at the University this fall.



Cynthia Barnett

Cynthia Barnett '05 credits KWF classmates for *Florida Trend* magazine's August cover story, "Competing Against the World." '05 Fellows Scott

Elliott and Jason Tanz gave sage advice, while Matthias Schepp found sources in West Germany and Mi-Seok Koh's daughter offered a key South Korean teen voice.



Jamie Butters

Jamie Butters '06 was promoted to auto editor of the *Detroit Free Press* in July. Butters had been acting auto editor since his return from the Fellowship in May.



Diane Brozek Fancher

Diane Brozek Fancher '82 joined the Center for Public Integrity as editorial director in April, overseeing all editorial projects at the Center, a nonprofit, nonpartisan

independent organization engaged in investigative reporting on public policy issues. Previously, she was the Maryland editor of the *Baltimore Sun*.



Bill Buzenberg

Bill Buzenberg '77 has been named executive director of the Center for Public Integrity, effective January 2007. Charles Filler, chairman of the Center's board, praised Buzenberg's

appointment "at this crucial moment in the country's history." Formerly senior vice president of news for *American Public Media/Minnesota Public Radio*, Buzenberg, along with Susan Buzenberg, also co-edited *Salant, CBS and the Battle for the Soul of Broadcast Journalism: The Memoirs of Richard S. Salant*.



Chris Carey

Chris Carey '06 launched Sharesleuth.com (www.sharesleuth.com), an online investigative business journalism website aimed at exposing stock fraud and corpo-

rate malfeasance. The venture is funded by Mark Cuban, owner of the Dallas Mavericks, HDNet, the Landmark Theatres chain and Magnolia Pictures. The partners plan to expand the site to include multimedia content and co-productions with HDNet.

Charles Clover '06 has recently been promoted to analysis editor for the *Financial Times of London*. Clover was formerly the paper's Middle East and Africa editor.

Christopher Cook '82 won five EMMYs at the annual gala of the Michigan Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS), at which he had a



Christopher Cook

record 13 nominations for work done in 2005. Three of the awards were for short film projects produced for the University of Michigan that appeared on public television or cable outlets. Since 1998, Cook has won nine EMMYs, and produced 16 hours of regional public television, commercial broadcast and cable programming.



Sergio Danishewsky

Sergio Danishewsky '05 is now chief editor of the lifestyle section at *Clarín* of Buenos Aires. Former sports editor Danishewsky oversees a group of 20 journalists

covering health, education, science, ecology, technology and society. In addition, he is the director of a new sports journalism school in Buenos Aires.



Charles Eisendrath

Charles Eisendrath '75 accepted a special EMMY award for press freedom on behalf of the International Press Institute at the 27th National News and Documentary

EMMY Awards ceremony in New York. Eisendrath was recently elected chairman of the American delegation to IPI.



Scott Elliott '05, Dayton News education reporter, was a finalist for an Online Journalism Award for his blog, Get on the Bus (www.daytondailynews.com/getonthe-bus).

Scott Elliott

His blog was nominated in the “online commentary” category in the annual awards contest sponsored by the Online News Association and the University of Southern California’s Annenberg School of Communication.

Caroline Finkel '03S is featured in a documentary entitled “Ottoman Empire: War Machine” that has been in heavy rotation on the History Channel. Finkel, who lives in London and Istanbul, is an expert on the Ottoman Empire and has written extensively on the subject, including her latest book, *Osman’s Dream*. Finkel is the spouse of writer and journalist Andrew Finkel '03.

Steve Franklin '85 recently completed the necessary training to embark upon a Knight Fellowship at the International Center for Journalists in Sudan in 2007. He will be teaching journalism to Sudanese journalists in Khartoum and other parts of the country for four months.

Jon C. Hall '89 died on May 29 from Burkitt’s lymphoma in Ann Arbor. Hall, 58, was an investigative reporter and editor for the *New Haven Register* and the *New Haven Journal-Courier* in Connecticut prior to moving to Michigan. Throughout his career, he worked as a correspondent for the *Boston Globe*, *ABC News* and other media outlets. His wife Sue Deer Hall notes that Hall “always looked back on his Knight-Wallace Fellowship with pride and admiration.”

Frank Lockwood '05, faith and values reporter for the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, launched



Frank Lockwood

a blog entitled Bible Belt Blogger. The site, found at www.spirituality.typepad.com/biblebelt, explores spirituality and faith-related issues.

Mary Losure '04, independent radio producer, has received funding for her production company, Round Earth Productions, for 18 months worth of stories from Latin America. She and her producing partner Mary Stucky will begin in Bolivia this November, producing both print and radio pieces.



Otesa Miles

Otesa Miles '05 was featured in an article in the May 2006 issue of *Essence*. In the article, “Free Money: 10 Ways to Fund Your Dreams,” Miles told the magazine

how the Knight-Wallace Fellowship allowed her to pursue her dream of studying psychology and mental well-being.

Sedat Pisiriçi '06S, formerly of *CNN-Türk*, became news manager of the *Vatan* newspaper in Istanbul. Pisiriçi’s spouse is *CNN-Türk*’s Semiha Oztürk-Pisiriçi '06.



Sedat and Semiha Pisiriçi



Kimberley Porteous

Kimberley Porteous '06S, wife of Gerard Ryle '06, is a finalist for a Walkley Award, Australia’s most prestigious journalism award. Porteous’ *Sydney Morning Herald* team earned a nod

in the “Best Use of the Medium” category for “The War of Ideas: September 11—Five Years On” on the newspaper’s website (www.smh.com.au/multimedia/pmg/).

Elizabeth Stawicki '00, legal affairs reporter for *Minnesota Public Radio*, won a Radio-Television News Directors Association Unity Award in 1999. She only recently discovered that she had received the honor when a plaque bearing her name popped up during *MPR*’s move to new offices. The Unity Awards serve to “encourage and showcase journalistic excellence in covering issues of race and ethnicity.”



Christine Tanaka

Christine Tanaka '05 has been promoted to news director of WRBL, Media General’s CBS affiliate in Columbus, Georgia.



Steve Twedt

Steve Twedt '99, staff writer for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, won a 2006 Missouri Lifestyle Journalism Award from the Missouri School of Journalism. Twedt’s series, “The Fraying

Safety Net,” which examined why the money Pennsylvania spends to help those in need simply isn’t enough, won in the Paul L. Myhre Series/Special Section category. ▶



Birgit Rieck

On October 29, 2006, the Class of '07 threw a brunch to fête Rwandan journalist Thomas Kamilindi '06, who has been granted political asylum by the United States. Members of the Class of '06 returned to celebrate with their former Fellow, along with Thomas' lawyers and other supporters.



Hats on in Philly: Michael Vitez '95 brought proper Wallace House hat gear for colleagues who couldn't make it to Ann Arbor: (left to right) Virginia Smith '96S, Joseph Gambardello '87, Michael Vitez '95, Faye Flam '05, Sherry Howard '93 and David Taylor '95.

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