

Fall 2002

## NEIU Magazine- Fall 2002

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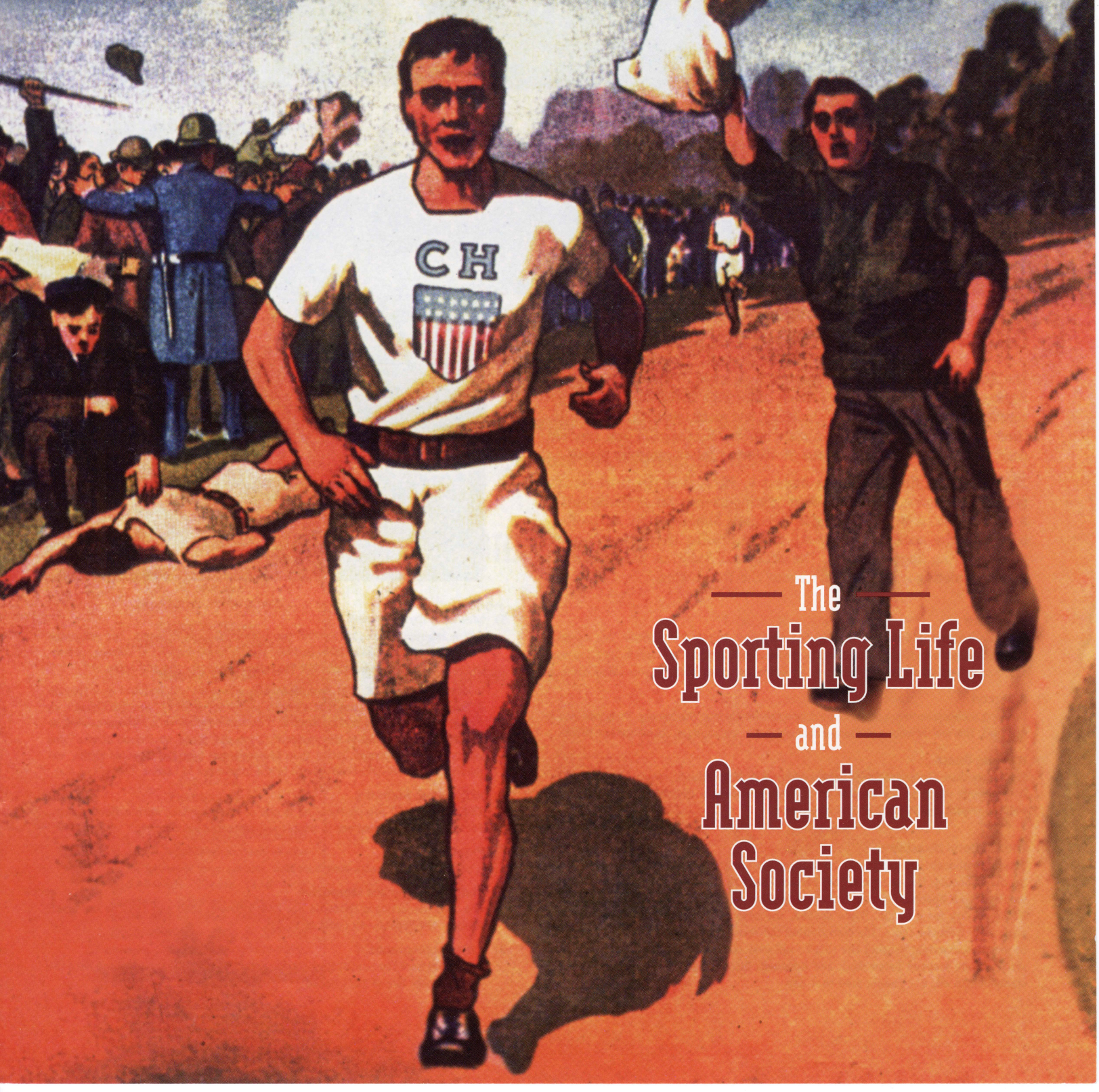


FALL 2002

# NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

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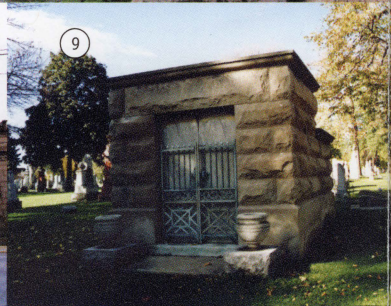
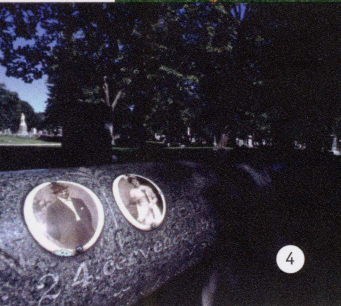
M A G A Z I N E



— The —  
**Sporting Life**  
— and —  
**American  
Society**



# NEIU SCRAPBOOK



photos and research by: Matt Hucce

## OUR NEIGHBORS TO THE WEST...

The Bohemian National Cemetery, just west of NEIU at 5255 N. Pulaski Road, contains one of the city's finest collections of funerary art, a spectacular chapel and columbarium building, and many larger-than-life sculptures. Beautiful plantings adorn many graves. Rectangular and crescent designs are common, with flowers of different colors carefully placed.

The cemetery's first burial was August 6, 1877. It is the final resting place for a great number of soldiers, dating back as far as the Spanish-American War. A World War I or II veteran is honored daily at the flagpole near the main entrance with a card bearing the veteran's name placed on the flagpole's base. The octagonal flagstone base has eight panels depicting a scene or fact about the World Wars.

### 1) Main Gate

The main entrance of Bohemian National Cemetery faces Pulaski Road. Within this limestone building, designed a historical landmark in the cemetery's 100th anniversary in 1977, is a small and spartan Gentlemen's Waiting Room and a much larger Ladies' Waiting Room with a fireplace.

### 2) K Petrtyl

Decaying, leafless trees were a popular form of monument in the late 19th century. Many were custom designed. This one includes a plethora of symbols: book, anchor, rope, chain, and handshake.

### 3) Walking Death

This larger-than-life bronze sculpture was designed by Albin Polasek, creator of "The Mother." It represents death in the form of an old woman, her face overshadowed by her hood, walking toward the Stejskal-Buchal mausoleum.

### 4) The Eastland Disaster

Several monuments in section 16 have something in common: the date July 24, 1915. On that morning, the excursion boat Eastland sank in the Chicago River. Two-thousand employees of Western Electric and their families were aboard, planning to cruise to Michigan City for a picnic. While docked, the boat became unbalanced and listed to port, away from the shore. The crew righted the vessel, but panicked passengers rushed to port, their weight causing the ship to roll over completely onto its side. Many passengers were trapped below deck and drowned. Others were crushed to death in the stampede. In all, 812 people died that day.

### 5) Mayor Anton Cermak

Anton Joseph Cermak (1875-1933) was born in Kladno, Bohemia, and emigrated to the United States as a child. In 1931, he was elected mayor of Chicago, defeating Republican incumbent Big Bill Thompson by nearly 200,000 votes.

In Miami on February 15, 1933, he made a public appearance with President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt. Shots rang out, and a nearby photographer joked "Just like Chicago, eh mayor?" Cermak was hit, and on March 6, 1933, he died of his wound. Before he died, he is reported to have said to the president, "I am glad it was me instead of you." One theory holds that Cermak, rather than Roosevelt, had been the intended victim, and that his death may have been ordered by the imprisoned Al Capone.

### 6) PFC Joseph Manning

The grave of PFC Joseph Manning is one of many covered with a floral design. These patterns are removed in winter and replanted each spring.

### 7) Pvt. Charles

A soldier of the Spanish-American War.

### 8) Civil War Veterans Memorial

The Civil War Veterans Memorial was built between 1889 and 1892 by the Grand Army of the Republic at a cost of \$5,035.

### 9) Kolar Mausoleum

The Kolars were the landlords of Patrick and Catherine O'Leary, in whose barn the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 began.



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# THE SPORTING LIFE AND AMERICAN SOCIETY

BY STEVEN A. RIESS AND PATRICK B. MILLER

Only in recent years have scholars started to examine the politics and economics of sport, as well as its relationship to urban culture, to prevailing gender ideals, and to issues of class, ethnicity, and race.

America's sporting heritage began with Native American contests of skill that had strong magico-religious functions, and traditional British folk games brought over by colonists. Seventeenth century New England Puritans promoted hard work and sound morality and looked down upon most sports as wasteful, especially if they involved gambling and occurred on the Sabbath. They only advocated useful sports like marksmanship.

The Anglican settlers of colonial Virginia, however, were more favorably inclined toward sport. In the late 17th century, the great tobacco planters copied the English elite and enjoyed horse racing and wagering as ways to prove their status and display prowess and courage. In the mid-18th century, prestigious new jockey clubs built racetracks where thoroughbreds soon ran.

From these early beginnings and through most of the 19th century, sport was perceived in highly gendered terms. Men were expected to engage in rigorous physical activity, like sports, while women were supposed to be frail, morally superior and domestic. Sports were a popular activity before the Civil War among the anti-Victorian male bachelor subculture of frontiersmen, elite men looking for excitement, and segments of the urban working class. Their sports were primarily participatory rather than spectatorial and included gambling on thoroughbred racing, harness racing, long distance running, and boxing.

Sport began to dramatically change in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century because of urbanization, industrialization (and its innovations in communication, transportation, and technology), the creation of new uplifting sports (especially team games like baseball) and the development of a positive sports creed that remade sport into a positive social force. Religious and secular reformers in the 1830s and 1840s saw that sport could promote morality, build character, and improve public health. Muscular Christianity and the rise of the YMCA embodied the new belief.

Elite sport flourished after the Civil War as industrial capitalists created athletic, jockey, and country clubs to gain and certify high status. The formerly anti-sport middle class became big fans. They had the time, money and interest to improve themselves through rigorous physical activity. They played sports like baseball and paid to watch the professionals of the National League, founded in 1876. The sons of the elite and upper middle class attended colleges where they participated in track and field, baseball, and especially football, first played between Rutgers and Princeton in 1869. Their daughters were slower to get involved in sport because the dominant culture considered sport too vigorous for frail Victorian women. By the 1850s and 1860s, women ice-skated and played croquet, which were not exertive, and often co-educational. A generation later, women played high status sports like tennis and golf and rode bicycles. Advocates considered these feminine sports not too rigorous and an enhancement to health and beauty.

Lower class sporting options became more limited with the overcrowding of urban spaces, 60-hour workweeks, low wages, and Sunday blue laws that limited the chance



to attend professional baseball games. Slum residents relied on such neighborhood male bastions as saloons, billiard parlors, and boxing clubs. African Americans, who mainly lived in the South at the turn of the century, were very involved in sports, an activity in which only ability and performance was supposed to count. However, discrimination forced them out of successful roles as jockeys and professional baseball players. Hence, Blacks formed their own baseball teams, and in 1920 organized the Negro National League. They could be boxers, but after Jack Johnson won the heavyweight title in 1908, no African American would get a title shot until Joe Louis in 1937.



Sport boomed in the 1920s, the Golden Age of Sport, because of a higher standard of living, the presence of great sports heroes like Babe Ruth, the legalization of boxing and horse racing, and the building of huge collegiate stadiums. Nearly all men had a chance to play or watch sports, but playing sport remained largely inappropriate for women. The boom was halted by the Depression when one-third of the work force was unemployed. Nonetheless, people sought an escape, and sport and other amusements declined less during the Depression than most activities. The New Deal even promoted economic recovery with programs that built parks and other athletic facilities.

Despite the hard times, the USA in 1932 staged the festive and profitable Olympic games in Lake Placid and Los Angeles. One of the foremost stars was Babe Didrikson, a working class woman, like many top female athletes of this era. She won two gold medals, and became recognized as the greatest female athlete of the century. Four years later at the Berlin Games, Jesse Owens' four gold medals in track demonstrated the athletic prowess of African Americans, although it did not earn him social acceptance or economic opportunity.

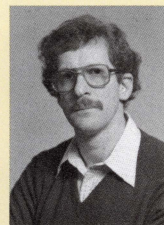
In the post-war world, the central themes of sport mirrored those of the society as a whole. Race was a key issue, especially the integration of the major leagues in 1947 by Jackie Robinson and the more merit based hiring practices that followed. African Americans were already dominating prize fighting, and eventually dominated basketball and football as well. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, African American sportsmen heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali and tennis star Arthur Ashe used sports to challenge American racism and promote black pride.

Post-war sport was also influenced by suburbanization and the rise of the Sun Belt, which altered the number and location of professional sports franchises and encouraged municipalities to build multimillion-dollar stadiums to attract teams. Television altered the business of sport and the nature of spectatorship, as did the Cold War that encouraged the use of sports for nationalistic purposes. Changing gender roles had a tremendous impact. Women's sports have exploded, abetted by feminism that encouraged young women to be all they could be, role models like Billie Jean King who contested gender inequities, and Title IX of the Educational Act of 1972 that mandated equal opportunity in sports for men and women at educational institutions. The number of female athletes at high schools and colleges is approaching parity, women athletes in the WNBA and members of the national soccer team have become prominent role models, and media coverage of women's sport has greatly expanded.

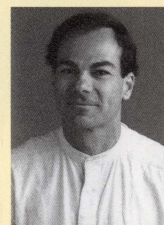
Today, "American" sport is truly international. Baseball, basketball and volleyball are played throughout the world, and a pro football league is thriving in Europe. About 25% of "our" baseball players come from outside the United States. And Michael Jordan is perhaps the most recognized American in the world.

Back in 1954, historian Jacques Barzun wrote, "Whoever wants to know the heart and mind of America had better learn baseball, the rules and realities of the game." Although this dictum was often quoted, few scholars at the time fully explored the ways that baseball—and other sports—illuminated significant developments in American social and cultural history.

The serious study of sport is a relatively recent phenomenon, and one of the hot new fields in academia. NEIU has played a major role as a center for the teaching of sport history, as co-host of a bimonthly seminar at the Newberry Library on sport and culture, and this past summer co-hosting with the Chicago Historical Society a National Endowment for the Humanities seminar.



Professor **Steven A. Riess** has taught sport history at NEIU since 1976. He is the author of several books including *Touching Base: Professional Baseball and American Culture* and *City Games: The Evolution of American Urban Society and the Rise of Sport*. He edited the *Journal of Sport History* from 1984 to 1992.



Professor **Patrick B. Miller** is in his seventh year in the history department. He is the editor of *The Sporting World of the Modern South*, author of *The Playing Fields of American Culture: Athletics and Higher Education, 1850-1945* (forthcoming) and co-editor of *The Unlevel Playing Field: A Documentary History of the African American Experience* (in press).



# NEIU'S OWN MARATHON MAN

BY LISA COOPER, *Director of Alumni Affairs*

NEIU alumnus Jose Nebrida is grateful for the freedom and the opportunity that the United States offers and he has a unique way of showing it.

Jose Nebrida, 60, runs marathons carrying the American flag. "By the 20<sup>th</sup> mile, my shoulders are numb and my arms are just aching. But I dedicate my running to honor the victims and the heroes of September 11, the firefighters and the policemen and all those who tried to save others and died in the process."

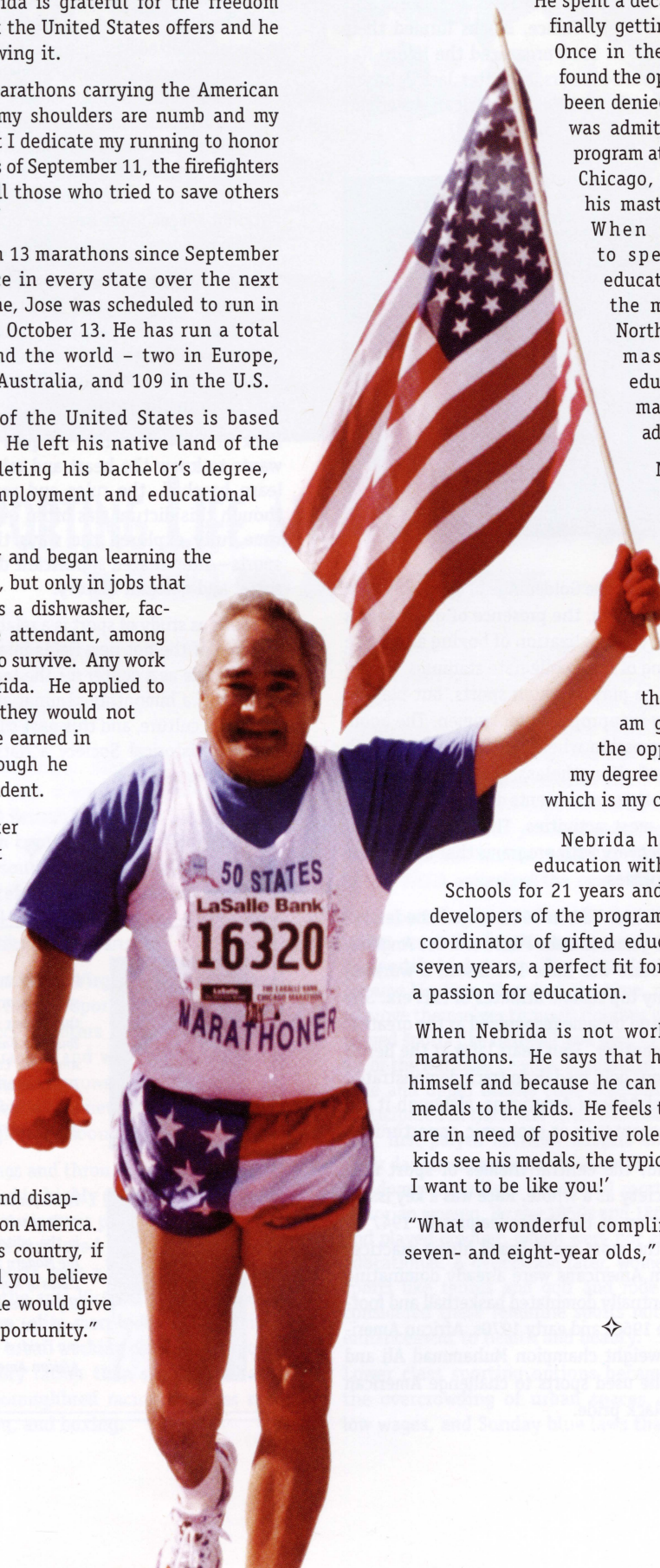
He has carried the flag in 13 marathons since September 11. He plans to run once in every state over the next 18 months. At press time, Jose was scheduled to run in the Chicago Marathon on October 13. He has run a total of 122 marathons around the world – two in Europe, nine in Canada, two in Australia, and 109 in the U.S.

Nebrida's appreciation of the United States is based on a lot of experience. He left his native land of the Philippines after completing his bachelor's degree, searching for better employment and educational opportunities.

He went first to Germany and began learning the language. He found work, but only in jobs that no one else wanted — as a dishwasher, factory laborer, and morgue attendant, among others. "Everything, just to survive. Any work I could find," recalls Nebrida. He applied to several universities, but they would not accept a bachelor's degree earned in the Philippines, even though he had been a straight 'A' student.

He moved to Canada after three years in Germany but found the doors of the universities closed to him there as well. He once traveled from Toronto to the University of New Brunswick in Vancouver – a four-day trip by train – only to be told that he could not be accepted because they only wanted the "crème de la crème."

Nebrida was deeply hurt and disappointed. He set his sights on America. "I always felt that in this country, if you are a hard worker and you believe that you can do it, people would give you that chance, that opportunity."



He spent a decade in Canada before finally getting his visa in 1975. Once in the United States, he found the opportunities that had been denied him elsewhere. He was admitted to the master's program at Loyola University of Chicago, eventually earning his master's in social work. When Nebrida decided to specialize in gifted education, he enrolled in the master's program at Northeastern, earning his master's in gifted education in 1986 and a master's in educational administration in 1994.

Nebrida explains, "Every professor in NEIU has a Ph.D., what more can I ask for? Not only are they academically superior, but at the same time, they have experience. I am grateful to NEIU for the opportunity to pursue my degree in gifted education, which is my current field."

Nebrida has been in gifted education with the Chicago Public Schools for 21 years and is one of the early developers of the program. He has been the coordinator of gifted education for the past seven years, a perfect fit for a person with such a passion for education.

When Nebrida is not working, he's running marathons. He says that he runs to challenge himself and because he can bring his marathon medals to the kids. He feels that today's children are in need of positive role models. When the kids see his medals, the typical response is, "Wow, I want to be like you!"

"What a wonderful compliment to hear from seven- and eight-year olds," he says.





# I THINK I KNOW YOU FROM SOMEWHERE!

BY LORENZO CLEMONS

I was attending a local grammar school graduation as the keynote speaker when the person who was going to introduce me said, "I think I know you from somewhere." We tried to come up with the possibilities, but to no avail. After she read a few lines of my biography while preparing the introduction, she turned to me and shouted, "I knew it, you were in my favorite movie, *U.S. Marshals!*"



Lorenzo Clemons (left) with Ice Cube in a scene from *Barbershop*, currently in theaters.

I was flattered. I wasn't the star or even the co-star of the movie. I did have a key role, but who remembers other people when there are Tommy Lee Jones and Wesley Snipes to choose from? So now, *U.S. Marshals* stars Snipes, Jones and me, Lorenzo Clemons. I'm only joking about the star billing, but I *am* humbled by the experiences of playing various movie roles over the past 20 years. Having had the privilege to work with such actors as James Earl Jones, Dolly Parton, Jim Brown, Scott Bakula, Tyne Daley, George Stanford Brown and many others has afforded me a great opportunity that many local actors have not had.

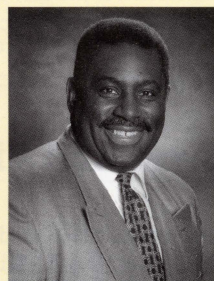
The very first movie I appeared in was the 1979 Lavar Burton made-for-television movie *Dummy*. It was my introduction to the movie business. I was very excited, and my small, but highly visible role made my friends and family proud to say they knew someone in the movie business. Whenever *Dummy* plays on late night television, I laugh, because it's black hair and 70 pounds ago.

Luckily, there are great roles for the big guys. Some producers look for the "Hollywood type," thin and very young, but most are trying to tell the diverse stories of America — and we come in all sizes and colors. That's been the key to my success in the movie business: the desire of movie studios to think on a broader scale.

A convincing role in one movie can lead to similar casting in other productions. I've played everything from a dockworker to a bank manager, but most times I can be seen as a policeman in several feature films and television shows. The type of role dictates the approach you should take in making the character come alive on the screen. However, you should never take a role which conflicts with your moral or ethical approach to acting. Being image conscious makes me look at the acting business with the concept of content over quantity, and quality over money.

Having had some good paydays on the movie set, it can make you want to be in the business full-time. If I were just starting my movie career, I would go to Hollywood or New York to find success as an actor. But, work in the Chicago area can be very lean at times and one should keep the day job! I'm very happy with being a part-time, "don't I know you from somewhere" actor from Chicago.

One of the greatest joys of working in the movie business is the opportunity to share with young people and give them a perspective on how to be successful. Having grown up poor on the west side of Chicago, any success is a testament of God's blessings, hard work and support from a lot of kind people. It gives me an opportunity to share the concept that hard work pays off, no matter where you come from.



Lorenzo Clemons was graduated from Northeastern in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in secondary education/social science. Between acting jobs, he is director of intergovernmental relations and community affairs for the Cook County Sheriff's Office. He also serves as a member of NEIU's Alumni Advisory Committee. A complete listing of movies he has appeared in can be found in the international database at [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com).



# CAMPUS NEWS

## NEIU and The Jesse White Tumbling Team Scholarship Program

### The Michelle Madden Award in Theatre

The Michelle Madden Award in Theatre was established this summer in memory of the arts publicist and advocate for Chicago's smallest theatre and dance groups. Effie Mihopoulos (B.A. '74, M.A. '75), well-known Chicago writer and long-time friend, conceived the idea for the award. It was funded through memorial gifts from Madden's family and friends. The award will honor Madden's memory by providing \$500 for tuition, books and/or fees to a deserving NEIU theatre student for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Madden, who died recently at the age of 54, ran her own public relations firm called MMPR. Some of her clients included The Free Associates, American Theatre Company, Shattered Globe Theatre, Bailiwick Repertory and Griffin Theatre.



NEIU President Salme H. Steinberg and Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White congratulate the first NEIU Jesse White Scholarship recipient, Albert Jarrell. At right are Albert's parents, Freddie and Carnell Jarrell.

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White created The Jesse White Tumbling Team in 1959 as an alternative for inner city youth. The Jesse White Scholars Program was established in 2000 to help provide financial support to members of the tumbling team who plan to go to college. Northeastern is the first university to enroll a student under the new scholars program.

Two scholarships will be available each fall for Jesse White scholars attending NEIU. The \$1000 scholarships are renewable for four years. In addition, NEIU will coordinate two annual campus visits for The Jesse White Scholars Program.

## NEIU Announces New Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Lawrence P. Frank's appointment as NEIU's provost and vice president for academic affairs began September 1. He comes to Northeastern from St. Xavier University where he served as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences since 1995. Dr. Frank earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University and his B.A. in political science from Northwestern University. From 1987 to 1995, he served in various capacities at Roosevelt University, including professor and chair of political science, coordinator

of the international studies program, acting director of the public administration program, and as the first director of the School of Policy Studies. In addition, Dr. Frank has taught at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth; American University in Cairo, Egypt; Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria; and St. Lawrence University, where he also served as director of international education.

A respected scholar on political change, Dr. Frank served in the Peace Corps as a secondary school teacher in Lesotho, Africa,

and later served as a research associate at the University of Botswana. He also served as a research associate at the Institute of African Studies at Columbia University and as National Endowment for the Humanities Scholar in Residence at Sarah Lawrence College. He has published and presented extensively and has been the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship, a Fulbright Summer Seminar Fellowship, and two NEH Fellowships.



# CAMPUS NEWS

## NEIU Prepares Teachers for High Need Schools

NEIU and the Illinois Professional Learners' Partnership (IPLP) have introduced a pilot program for undergraduate elementary education students interested in teaching in high need schools.

The IPLP Elementary Education Cohort Program prepares students to teach children who come from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. The program emphasizes a deeper exploration of culture and community, classroom management, urban schooling, and working with parents. After completing the program students will have more hours of field and clinical experience than other elementary education students.

The IPLP Elementary Education Cohort Program is affiliated with the department of teacher education in the College of Education at NEIU. It is funded by a federal Teacher Quality Enhancement grant designed to improve teacher education for people planning to teach in high need schools.

## NEIU Nationally Ranked for Degrees Earned by Minorities

According to *Black Issues in Higher Education*, Northeastern ranks among the top universities in the United States in the number of baccalaureate and master's degrees earned by students of various ethnic backgrounds.

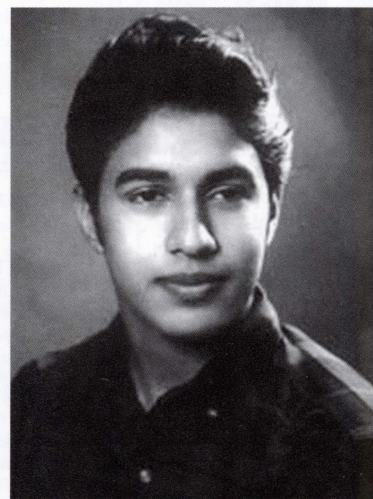
*Black Issues in Higher Education* analyzes the U.S. Department of Education reports of data submitted by institutions. These are the national rankings for NEIU based on the review of 2000-2001 preliminary data.

### Number of baccalaureate degrees earned in...

- Education by Hispanics: 14<sup>th</sup>
- Education by Asian Americans: 16<sup>th</sup>
- Computer & Information Science by Asian Americans: 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Computer & Information Science by Hispanics: 46<sup>th</sup>

### Number of master's degrees earned in...

- Ethnic Studies by African Americans: 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Computer Science by Asian Americans: 21<sup>st</sup>
- Education by Hispanics: 53<sup>rd</sup>



## International Master of Indian Music Teaches Course at NEIU

Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, one of the most distinguished performers of Indian classical music, taught a practicum focusing on the music of India at NEIU this summer. The course stressed aural training instead of relying on written notation. The lessons exercised the students' listening skills as they responded to what Ali Khan would play.

Ali Khan plays the sarod, an unfretted lute-like instrument. The Dalai Lama has said of his music, "When Amjad Ali Khan performs, he carries a deep human spirit, a warm feeling, and a sense of caring."

## City Kids Experience Life Down on the Farm

Seventh and eighth graders from Chicago Public Schools got a chance to see what it's like to work on a farm at the Local Organic Farm 2002 Expedition this summer. The three-day expedition took place at Angelic Organics Farm in Caledonia, IL. The 20 students learned about organic farming through participation in fieldwork, animal

chores, soil analysis, compost creation, straw bale chicken coop construction, and other farm activities. As part of the learning experience, they created a mural with the assistance of the accomplished Venezuelan muralist Eduardo Angulo.

The expedition was supported by NEIU's Chicago Teachers' Center, the Chicago GEAR UP Alliance, the Field Foundation, Prince Charitable Trusts

and the Polk Brothers Foundation. GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education designed to encourage more young people, beginning at the middle school level, to have high expectations, stay in school, study hard, and go to college.



# CLASS NOTES

1965

**Dallas L. Browne**, Ph.D. (B.A. Elem. Ed.-Anthropology) is honorary consul for Tanzania and chairman of the board of directors and president of the St. Louis Committee on Foreign Relations. He is chairman of the department of anthropology at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville.

**Laurene E. (Truher) Swanson** (B.A. Linguistics-Elem. Ed.) retired this summer after 37 years of teaching middle school. She taught 9 years in the Chicago Public Schools and 28 years in rural Michigan.

1966

**Kenneth P. Gill** (B.A. Elem Ed-History) is traveling to New York to serve as assistant director of the United Nations Program for Youth sponsored by the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. This is his seventh year of attendance. He is a retired teacher from Chicago.

**Frank P. Sesko** (B.A. Speech-Elem. Ed.) is a traveling program associate at the University of Illinois at Chicago, after serving as school superintendent for the Watersmeet Township School District in Michigan. He retired from the Township High School District 211 in 1999.

1967

**Sharon F. Graff** (B.A. Social Science-Elem. Ed.) has been a teacher of gifted children at Dooley Magnet School in Schaumburg since 1998.

1970

**Bernadine L. (Ryan) Hoff** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-English Ed.) is starting a one-year appointment to the San Diego County Grand Jury in San Diego, CA. She returned to the U.S. last summer after residing in Morocco for four years, two of which were spent in Agadir as a Peace Corps volunteer.

**Charlie H. Martin** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-English Ed., M.A. '82 Inner City Studies) is completing his Ph.D. in instructional

## 2002 OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS CPS Principals and Administrators

Each year since 1997, the Chicago Public Schools, in conjunction with The Chicago Principals and Administrators Association and LaSalle Bank, has sponsored the Outstanding Leadership Awards. Since its inception, at least three of the annual winners have been NEIU alumni!

### Congratulations to this year's winners:

**Dr. Jo L. Easterling-Hood**  
(B.A. '80 Special Ed. - Teaching Children w/Learning Disabilities)  
Principal, Mary E. McDowell Elementary School

**Odetta Langer**  
(B.A. '66 General Ed. - Elem. Ed.)  
Assistant Principal, John Barry Elementary School

**Dr. John P. Reilly**  
(M.A.S. '78 Educating Individuals w/Mental Handicaps)  
Principal, Portage Park Elementary School

**Amanda Rivera**  
(M.A. '96 Admin. and Supervision - Gen. Adm. Cer.)  
Principal, Ames Middle School

**Dr. Thelma K. Sylvester**  
(M.Ed. '73 Inner City Studies)  
Principal, Vernon Johns Middle Academy

**Dr. Melovee Williamson**  
(B.A. '75 Inner City Studies, M.A.S. '86 Teaching Children w/Learning Disabilities, M.A. '89 Admin. and Supervision - Gen. Adm. Cer.)  
Principal, Stephen K. Hayt Elementary School

technology at Northern Illinois University. He is also an ICEOP Fellow.

**Bruce R. Brown**, Ed.D. (B.A. Psychology-Elem. Ed., M.A.S. '76 Teaching Mentally Handicap, M.A. '85 Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Admin. Cert.) was appointed superintendent of schools for Mount Prospect School District 57 after serving as assistant superintendent for the Glenview Public Schools.

1971

**Madie (Davis) Cannamore**, Ph.D. (M.E.D. Inner City Studies) was honored as the 2002 Alumnae of the Year - Civic/Community at Chicago State University and received the 2002 Marcus Garvey Empowerment Award - Afrique Award. She is CEO of CUZ-2, a home-based jewelry business, and a professor in the business/CIS department at Kennedy-King College in Chicago.

**James O. Jahrling** (B.A. Mathematics) was appointed director of information management at Township High School District 214 in Arlington Heights.

1972

**Alan D. Axelrod** (B.A. English) authored the *Business Week* best seller, *Elizabeth I, CEO:*

*Strategic Lessons from the Leader Who Built an Empire* in April. He is president of The Ian Samuel Group, Inc., a book packaging and consulting firm.

**Rubbie L. Hodge** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Speech) was selected as the Keppel Union School District's 2002 Teacher of the Year and as a Bravo Award nominee by the Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County. She teaches at Almondale Middle School in Litterlock, CA.

1973

**Ranka P. Gajic**, Ph.D. (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Art) was invested as a laureate of the IBC Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Biographical Centre in Cambridge, England in recognition of outstanding contributions to arts and education.

**Judith A. Justus** (B.S. Sec. Ed.-Biology) was awarded the 2001 Outstanding Biology Teacher Award for Colorado by The National Association of Biology Teachers. She is chair of the science department at Conifer High School in Conifer, CO.

1977

**Gerald R. Gems** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Physical Ed.) was a consultant for a recent Chicago Historical Society exhibit on sports in Chicago. He is president-

elect of the North American Society for Sport History and professor of health and physical education at North Central College in Naperville.

**Ralph Manganiello** (B.A. Speech) is a retired captain from the U.S. Air Force. He is a director at Envision, an organization specializing in vision rehabilitation in Wichita, KS.

**Douglas A. Widowski** (B.A. Speech, English) is a member of the Leukemia Society of America's Team in Training. He will be carrying names of leukemia victims with him as he runs the Chicago Marathon in October.

1978

**Timothy M. Coogan** (B.A. Psychology) earned a bachelor's in physician assistant and a certificate completion of physician assistant training from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale this summer. He retired from the U.S. Department of Justice in 2000.

**Richard P. Davis** (B.A. Psychology) works with homeless individuals and volunteers at Cook County Hospital and Rush Presbyterian St. Lukes Medical Center. He is associate pastor of the Humboldt

Park Congregational Church. He earned two M.T.S. degrees from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

**Cathy A. Powell** (B.A. Special Ed.-Mental Retardation, M.A.S. '84 Teaching Children w/LD) was appointed principal of John Laidlaw Elementary in Western Springs.

1980

**Alan J. Schullo** (B.A. Bus. and Mgt.) was appointed fire chief for the St. Charles Fire Department.

1981

**Craig B. Simonsen** (B.A. and M.A. '85 History) authored his third book, *Essentials of the Internet*, published this year by Pearson Publications. He is senior paralegal at Seyfarth Shaw in Chicago.

1982

**Melinda Dworkin** (B.A. Psychology) earned her master's in clinical social work from Loyola University in Chicago.

**Sandra J. Linn** (M.A. Instructional Media) wrote *Internet Activities for Educational Activities Software*. She is an associate professor in the centers for education and technology, San Diego Community College District.

**Phillip A. Levsky** (B.A. Bus. and Mgt.) is a tax manager at Deloitte & Touche in Chicago.

**Patrick M. Shine** (B.A. Economics, Bus. and Mgt.) is senior counsel for ACE-INA Insurance Company. He works for ACE-INA's captive law firm, Cohn & Baughman, focusing on environmental and asbestos litigation nationally. He has been an insurance coverage litigation attorney since 1988.

1984

**Daniel B. Porter** (B.A. Kaskaskia) recently opened the Flamingo Café in Northfield. He is also CEO of D&L Partners, Inc. in Chicago, which is responsible for over \$10 million in real estate sales.



# CLASS NOTES

## 1985

**Patricia M. (Schwetz) Casella** (B.A. Spec. Ed.-Mental Retardation, Elem.Ed.-Teacher Ed., M.A.S. '88 Early Childhood-Special Ed.) works in homes with infants and toddlers with developmental delays. She is a developmental therapist for AWS in Fort Wayne, IN.

**Nikki Garbis Proutsos** (B.A. Political Science, Economics) was featured in the *Chicago Tribune Magazine* cover story on July 28, 2002 for her work as executive director for the City of Chicago Commission on Animal Care and Control.

## 1986

**Albio N. Marquez** (B.S. and M.S. '95 Biology) was promoted to manager in the microbiology department at Stat Analysis Corporation. He earned a master's in environmental management from the Illinois Institute of Technology this summer.

**Scott Kasik** (M.A.S. Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Admin. Cert., M.A. '95 Educating Children w/BD) was appointed principal of Lake Zurich High School.

## 1987

**Donna Joy** (M.A. Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Adm. Cer.) is superintendent of Flossmoor School District 161. She earned her doctorate in education from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

**Michael Lichtenstein** (B.S. Computer Science) earned his master's in computer information systems from the Knowledge Systems Institute in Skokie. He is retired from his position as senior professor at DeVry University.

**Jeff Scanlan** (B.S. Management) performed at this year's Major League Baseball All-Star game in Milwaukee, WI. He is known as "America's Sports Magician," the only magician in the country who combines magic with sports props and themes.

## 1988

**Laura K. Sherman, M.D.** (B.A. Psychology) is assistant professor of medicine (psychiatry) at the MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas in Houston, one of the most well respected cancer treatment and research centers in the world.

**Teresa A. Wadas** (B.A. B.O.G.) was selected NEIU's Employee of the Year for 2001. She is business manager of the department of auxiliary and support services.

**James Gay** (M.A. Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Admin. Cert.) was appointed principal at Andrew High School in Tinley Park after serving as associate principal.

## 1990

**Lowell R. Cox, Jr.** (B.A. B.O.G.) retired from the Illinois National Guard and was hired as a sales engineer manager by Nextel Communications. He is responsible for supporting Nextel's data sales team in the Eastern half of the U.S.

**Donald L. Price** (B.A. Geography, Sec. Ed. Cert: Geography, M.A. '92 Geog. and Env. Studies) was selected as key leader for the National Science Teachers Association Building a Presence program. He is an earth science teacher at Curie Metropolitan High School in Chicago.

## 1991

**Deborah (Wiedrich) Ruemler** (M.A. Human Resource Dev.) has been appointed to the 2002 Board of Examiners for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the highest national recognition for performance excellence that a U.S. organization can receive. She is director of training and development at Dollar Rent-A-Car Systems, Inc. in Tulsa, OK.

**James Van Fleet** (M.A. Admin. and Supervision-Gen. Adm. Cer.) is athletic director for Wauconda High School in Wauconda.

## 1992

**Cecelia Dodge** (B.A. Spec. Ed.-Behavioral Disorders) is supervisor of the division of special education for the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning. She is currently completing her master's in education policy and administration at the University of Minnesota.

**Helen Callahan** (M.A. Guid. and Counseling-Elem. School) retired this summer after 39 years of teaching at the Komarek School in North Riverside.

## 1993

**Diane L. Brown** (M.A. English, M.A. '02 Ed. Leadership) was promoted to associate principal for academics at De La Salle Institute's Lourdes Hall campus for young women that opened this fall. She was previously the dean of language arts.

## 1994

**Robert S. Kolish, C.P.A.** (B.S. Accounting) acquired his Professional Academy for Health Care Management Certification. He is a senior consultant at Blue Cross / Blue Shield Association in Chicago.

**Peter C. Donnelly** (B.S. Accounting) recently passed his CPA exam. He is an accountant for RCN in Chicago.

## 1995

**Evelyn (Thomas) Dillon** (B.A. B.O.G., M.A. '97 Inner City Studies) is a project manager for the University of Illinois - Great Cities Institute/CUPPA, a \$2.7 million grant dealing with health care issues for addicted criminal offenders.

**Gaetano Gianni** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Physical Ed.) is head baseball coach at Notre Dame Preparatory in Scottsdale, AZ.

**Cynthia M. (Dubas) Spaeth** (B.A. B.O.G., M.A. '00 Mental Handicaps) is a learning disabilities teacher at Harvard High School in Harvard.

**Derek A. Rubino** (B.A. Sec. Ed.-Physical Ed.) was named head boys basketball coach

at St. Benedict High School in Chicago where he has been a physical education teacher and department head for seven years.

## 1996

**McCleanty A. Robinson, Jr.** (M.A. Admin. and Super.-Gen. Adm. Cer.) was appointed assistant principal of students at Maine West High School in Des Plaines.

## 1997

**Enrique R. Gallego** (M.A. Political Science) was named to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., State of Illinois All-State Team of Post Commanders for 2001-2002. He is the post commander for VFW Post 3854, located in Skokie.

**Marlene J. Gill** (B.A. B.O.G., M.A. '01 Human Resource Dev.) will be installed as president of the Rebekah's of Illinois - District #1 in October.

## 1999

**Felix B. Carter** (B.A. B.O.G.) is a second year graduate student in the master's in political science program at NEIU. He is a police officer - investigator I for the Northeast Illinois Railroad Corporation.

**Erica Gonzalez-Davila** (B.A. Elem. Ed.-Teacher Ed., Sociology) earned her master's in education summa cum laude from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. She is a Ph.D. candidate in the department of educational policy studies and an administrative assistant, counselor, and research assistant at U of I.

**Syantha Lancaster** (B.A. B.O.G., M.A. '01 Inner City Studies) is an instructor assistant at Stockton Elementary School in Chicago. She was a volunteer for the University Ambassadors Program in the dean of students office at NEIU.

**Jacqueline M. Taylor** (B.A. B.O.G.) earned her master's in information technology at American InterContinental University in Atlanta, GA.

## 2000

**Angelique N. Cerrato-Miller** (B.A. Social Work) earned her master's in social work from the University of Chicago: School of Social Service Administration in June.

**Mary S. Tan** (B.A. Speech) is an auto claims specialist at State Farm Insurance Company in Niles.

## 2002

**Paul T. Gahol** (B.S. Computer Science) graduated cum laude from NEIU in May. He is an associate programmer analyst at Caremark Rx Service in Bannockburn.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Patricia E. Fortado**  
(B.A. '75 B.O.G.)

**Kevin Geiger**  
(B.A. '85 Speech)

**Marjorie Siewers**  
(M.A. '83 Instructional Media)

**Sue A. Fremgen**  
(M.A. '76 History)

### Faculty

**Lillian Novakovich, M.A.**  
Music Department  
2001-2002



**The Ronald Williams Library** is celebrating 25 years of serving the NEIU community. As an NEIU alum, you can take advantage of many services including:

- **Circulation privileges for titles held in the Library's general book collection of over 610,000 volumes**
- **Browsing access to the Library's journal collection of over 88,000 volumes and 2,400 current journal title subscriptions**
- **Online access, within the Library, to more than 80 licensed electronic databases, which include the full text of approximately 9,500 journal titles**
- **Onsite general reference assistance**

*To borrow books from the Library, you must have a current NEIU alumni I.D. card, which is available for \$5.00 from the information center in Village Square.*

## Take advantage of services and benefits available to NEIU graduates.

**Job Placement Services** – If you're job-hunting, start your search at NEIU. The placement office also provides resume critiquing and interviewing coaching. Call 773-442-4253.

**Career Counseling Services** – Changing careers can be difficult. Dr. David Helfand, nationally known career expert, can help you identify skills and personality traits to help you make that transition. Contact the counseling office at 773-442-4652.

**Merchandise Discounts** – Need new NEIU gear? Beck's Bookstore offers a 10% discount to alumni.

**Discounted Gym Membership** – NEIU's P.E. Complex is equipped with an Olympic size swimming pool, fitness room, full size basketball courts, racquetball courts, and more. Call 773-442-4135 for membership rates.

**Discounted Tickets to Selected Performing Arts Events** – Alumni receive a 50% discount on Jewel Box series performances as well as discounted admission to other fine arts events.

**Access to the Library** – Alumni get free withdrawal privileges as well as use of the many resources the Library has to offer. Call the Library for details at 773-442-4410.

**For more information about alumni benefits and services, contact us:**

**Phone:** 773-442-4205

**E-mail:** [alumni@neiu.edu](mailto:alumni@neiu.edu)

**Website:** [www.neiu.edu/Alum.htm](http://www.neiu.edu/Alum.htm)

## Upcoming Events

*All events are free to NEIU alumni unless otherwise noted. Call 773-442-4211 for details.*

### Admissions Open House

An opportunity for your children, friends, or associates to get information about attending NEIU.

Student Union

Thursday, November 7, 2002, 5 - 7 p.m.

### Third Annual Inter-Faith Program

A series of lectures and workshops designed to promote understanding, tolerance and respect of cross-cultural experiences.

Student Union

November 12 -14, 2002

### College of Business & Management Alumni Social

Wine and hors d'oeuvres reception to meet the new dean, network with old friends and faculty, and find out about the new COBM alumni networking group.

Student Union - Alumni Hall

Thursday, November 14, 2002, 7 - 9 p.m.

### Presidential Lecture Series

**Jonathan Kozol**, education activist and writer

Student Union - Alumni Hall

Thursday, October 24, 2002

5 p.m. Master Class

8 p.m. Lecture and Reception

### Jewel Box Series

*All concerts begin at 8 p.m. in NEIU's Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. Alumni receive half off individual ticket and series subscription costs. For information call the Box Office at 773-442-INFO.*

### Fry Street Quartet

Friday, November 15, 2002

### Vermeer Quartet

Friday, December 20, 2002

### Robert Sims

Friday, January 17, 2003