

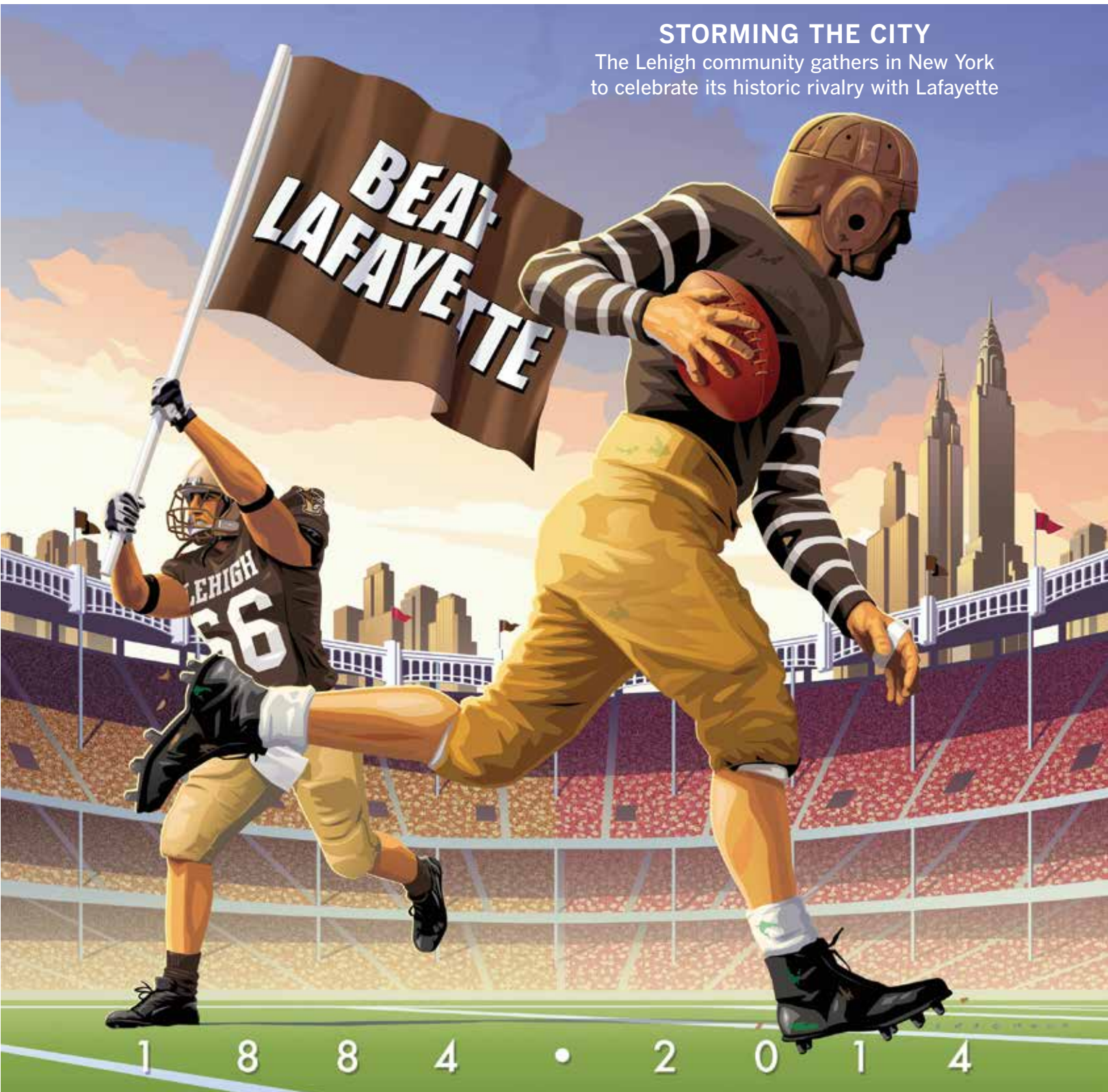
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LEHIGH

B U L L E T I N

STORMING THE CITY

The Lehigh community gathers in New York to celebrate its historic rivalry with Lafayette



LEHIGH

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ON THE COVER: Chicago-based illustrator Dan Consgrave created this cover celebrating the 150th playing of the Lehigh-Lafayette game. The image of the player in the foreground references the Lehigh player in this photograph above, taken during a Lehigh-Lafayette game believed to have been played in the 1930s. *Photo from Lehigh Athletics*

WELCOME BACK

Lehigh opened its doors for the return of students in late August, ushering in another academic year and bringing new life to campus.

Photo by Christa Neu



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

More Than a Game

THE FIRST THING **Mark McGowan ’89** wanted to know was where I went to college.

I was interviewing McGowan, who quarterbacked his team to a 17-10 win over Lafayette in the last game ever played at Taylor Stadium back in 1987, for this issue’s cover feature—a feature that attempts to get at the heart of what it means to compete in the most played rivalry in college football history. “Look, I’m a college football junkie,” I explained to McGowan. “But I have to admit—I didn’t go to Lehigh. So I’ve got some homework to do here.”

That’s when he jumped in.

“Well, where *did* you go?” he joked. “Because if you say Lafayette, I might have to hang up.”

Yes, if there’s one thing I learned while working on this story, it is this: Lehigh folks take this rivalry series awfully seriously.

I grew up near Cleveland, rooting for the Ohio State Buckeyes each year against hated Michigan, and I later attended college at Penn State, where I saw the Nittany Lions play in some pretty heated battles as well. But after attending Lehigh-Lafayette last year, and after talking to so many Lehigh football alums over the past couple of months for this story, I have truly come to appreciate the point that **Mark Yeager ’81** makes so eloquently in our story—that the game known simply as The Rivalry matters every bit as much to Lehigh people, and ev-

ery bit as much to Lafayette people, as any other rivalry game matters to any other school in the country. It may not draw the attention that games like Ohio State-Michigan or Auburn-Alabama or Army-Navy do, Yeager told me, but Lehigh-Lafayette still matters. To him, to his fellow football alums, to the entire Lehigh community—it *really, really matters*. Our cover story—in which we talk to former Lehigh football players about what it means, and how it feels, to play in college football’s most played rivalry—helps explain why. This issue also provides you with all of the information you need to make the most of your Lehigh-Lafayette weekend in the Big Apple. Just check out the two-page Rivalry Weekend primer on pages 38-39.

I hope that you will enjoy reading this special issue of the *Bulletin* as much as we enjoyed putting it together, and welcome you, as always, to share your thoughts and comments by emailing me at tih313@lehigh.edu, or by sending mail to the address at right.

In the meantime, I join you in saying: “Go Lehigh! Beat Lafayette!”


Sincerely,
Tim Hyland, *Editor*

MASTHEAD

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CORRESPONDENCE

A HEROIC TRAILBLAZER AND OTHER LEHIGH HEROES

The story of Dr. Costel Denson’s experience as a Lehigh undergraduate in the early 1950s evoked many memories of the times and how I was part of the overwhelming mass of fellow students who could have reached out to Cos, but didn’t.

Being the first in my family to go to college, I think I was most worried about how I should act in this new and very different and somewhat scary environment. I didn’t know much about race or religious relations, grew up as a Protestant kid in a predominantly Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn, and knew when to keep my mouth shut. In the 60-plus years since I’ve learned a great deal.

In Cos’ article I learned about some of the heroes at that time to include the late Paul Franz ’44 who apparently was key in getting Cos on campus with the help of the Dravo sisters. During my 12 years as Lehigh’s alumni director (1983-1995), I soon learned that Paul was a master at advancing the support to Lehigh that our alumni gave, as well as those in the philanthropic and business communities. Paul’s talents and charm were known nationwide. He was and is a Lehigh hero.

Dr. Denson tells us of the greatness of Dr. Alan Foust (the tall Texan) as well as the ignorance of another professor. There was a lot of ignorance then, as there is now, perhaps more subtle today—if ignorance is ever subtle. Dr. Foust was a Lehigh hero.

I was at the dinner in 2006 when Harry Levine ’56 recognized Cos and expressed the regrets of all of us there when he spoke of Cos’ social isolation and loneliness. (Prior to the speech I had just presented the Alumni Award to Harry, a longtime friend and a deserving alumnus.) I consider Harry a hero for his recognizing that the balm of an apology was long overdue for Dr. Denson.

Dr. Denson tells of how there was an alignment of the trustees and the Lehigh administration and faculty. The Board of Trustees chairman was Dr. Eugene G. Grace ’99 and our president was Martin Dewey Whitaker. I think that maybe during my four years at Lehigh I may have seen them twice—quite a contrast from Dr. Alice Gast and Peter Likins, Lehigh’s leader during my working years there.

In Lehigh’s history there have been the great-minded, and some small-minded. I will never forget visiting the late Sam Efron ’35, a highly successful and distinguished Washington attorney who related to me that when he applied to Harvard Law School during his senior year at Lehigh, a Lehigh dean noted on the application that he doubted that Mr. Efron would succeed, as he was Jewish. He did earn a full scholarship to Harvard.

We cheer for the heroes: Grace, Whitaker, the Dravo sisters, Franz, Foust, Levine and particularly Dr. Costel Denson, a gracious man.

—*Don Bott ’54*



Paul Franz ’44

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

ANOTHER LEHIGH PIONEER

We should all be proud of the tremendous legacy that President Alice P. Gast brought to Lehigh University. She has clearly demonstrated that women can and will bring great leadership to academe.

It wasn’t always so. My wife, Astrid B. Kromayer, arrived in Bethlehem in June of 1951, having completed two years as a teaching assistant and a master’s degree in Spanish Language and Literature at Brown University. However, when she applied for a position as an instructor in Romance Languages at Lehigh (and three other colleges in the Lehigh Valley) she was informed by return mail that “We do not hire women.”

But things changed. Lehigh found that it was unable to find a qualified male instructor to cover two sections of Spanish for the 1951–1952 semesters. So Astrid was hired to teach those two sections. Later, due to a serious illness of one of the tenured professors, she ended up teaching two additional sections, teaching an overload. She concealed the fact that she was pregnant, and wore her first maternity dress to the final exams in June of 1952 when she was six months pregnant. The response from the students was immediate: “Hope it is a boy (Lehigh Class of 1974)!” appeared on numerous exam papers. Little did those male students realize that my daughter, born in September 1952, could have graduated from Lehigh in 1974.

So Astrid B. Kromayer may well have been the first female instructor at Lehigh. She later earned a PhD at Rutgers University and retired from Moravian College in 1992 after a long teaching career.

—*Peter H. Kromayer ’60 M.S.*

AN INVITATION TO THE ARTS

I read with interest, in the Spring 2014 Lehigh *Bulletin*, the note about Theo Anderson’s recent exhibition, “Complexity.” To make the story a bit more complex, I would just like to let you know how that exhibition came about.

After viewing Theo’s images, Lehigh University Art Galleries (LUAG) invited him to allow us to curate a show in the Dubois Gallery, Maginnes Hall for our Spring 2014 exhibition program. At the same time, we asked former President Alice Gast to speak at the Opening Reception and Gallery Talk for “Complexity.” We were delighted with her enthusiasm and initiative about Theo’s creative work.

An essential part of our mission as a university museum is visual literacy. With this in mind, we encourage faculty, students, and alumni to use our Teaching Collection, as well as temporary exhibitions like “Complexity,” for instruction, research, and enjoyment. To learn more about the Galleries’ role as an integral part of Lehigh, we hope you will visit us at www.luag.org.

—*Ricardo Viera*
Professor of Art A|A|D
Director/Chief Curator, Lehigh University Art Galleries

Through a New Lens

My evolving view of a great university

By Kevin L. Clayton '84, '13P, Interim President

LEHIGH HAS BEEN PART OF MY LIFE for as long as I can remember.

I grew up in a Lehigh family. My father, William Clayton '51, was a devoted Lehigh alumnus and served as trustee for more than 20 years. When the time came for me to attend college, I was proud to follow in his footsteps. I earned my degree in 1984 after a rewarding experience on South Mountain, and have in the years since been involved with this university as a parent, a trustee, and, now, as interim president.

In this most recent role, I've had the opportunity to view Lehigh through a new lens. I've seen, on a daily basis, the hard work, dedication, and intellectual firepower that have established this university as a leader and innovator in the world of higher education. Our students, faculty, staff, and alumni continue to impress and amaze with their ambition, inquisitiveness, and loyalty to this university. Their collective brilliance, generous philanthropy, and commitment to push Lehigh forward is awe-inspiring.

This summer, I witnessed firsthand the remarkable opportunity Lehigh continues to offer its students through the groundbreaking Mountaintop project. In this, our second year of programming on Mountaintop, more than 100 students and two dozen faculty members engaged in projects that cut across all disciplines and presented a wide variety of intellectual challenges. By all accounts, Mountaintop 2014 was an enormous success, as Lehigh continued to develop unique learning environments while giving our students the support they need to succeed with their projects and grow as leaders, entrepreneurs, and intellectuals.

The return of our students in late August ramped up the energy level on campus considerably. Our first-year class is the largest in Lehigh's history thanks to a higher than anticipated yield rate

“OUR STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND ALUMNI CONTINUE TO IMPRESS AND AMAZE WITH THEIR AMBITION, INQUISITIVENESS, AND LOYALTY.”

on admissions offers, with the quality of these students exceeding our expectations. As the campus came to life, I was impressed by the numerous opportunities for intellectual engagement and personal growth that Lehigh offers its students. The Lehigh Club and Community Expo drew more than 230 clubs and organizations to the University Lawn. The rededication of the UMOJA House celebrated our renewed campus unity.

The spike in energy at the start of the academic year is truly a by-product of our bright and ambitious students and our distinguished faculty. I had the pleasure of greeting an impressive



CHRISTA NEU

group of new faculty at the start of the semester, and also enjoyed reestablishing relationships with some of our longtime and well-respected professors. The momentum I see around innovative teaching, creative research and scholarship, and developing an engaged community of learners is undeniable.


Like all of you, I very much look forward to the 150th playing of The Rivalry football game against Lafayette on Saturday, November 22, at Yankee Stadium. This nationally televised event will give both institutions an opportunity to highlight our excellent academic programs, showcase our exceptional student-athletes, and celebrate our fiercely loyal alumni. This is a momentous event for the Lehigh community, and this issue of the *Bulletin* takes an in-depth look at the great history of a truly unique rivalry.

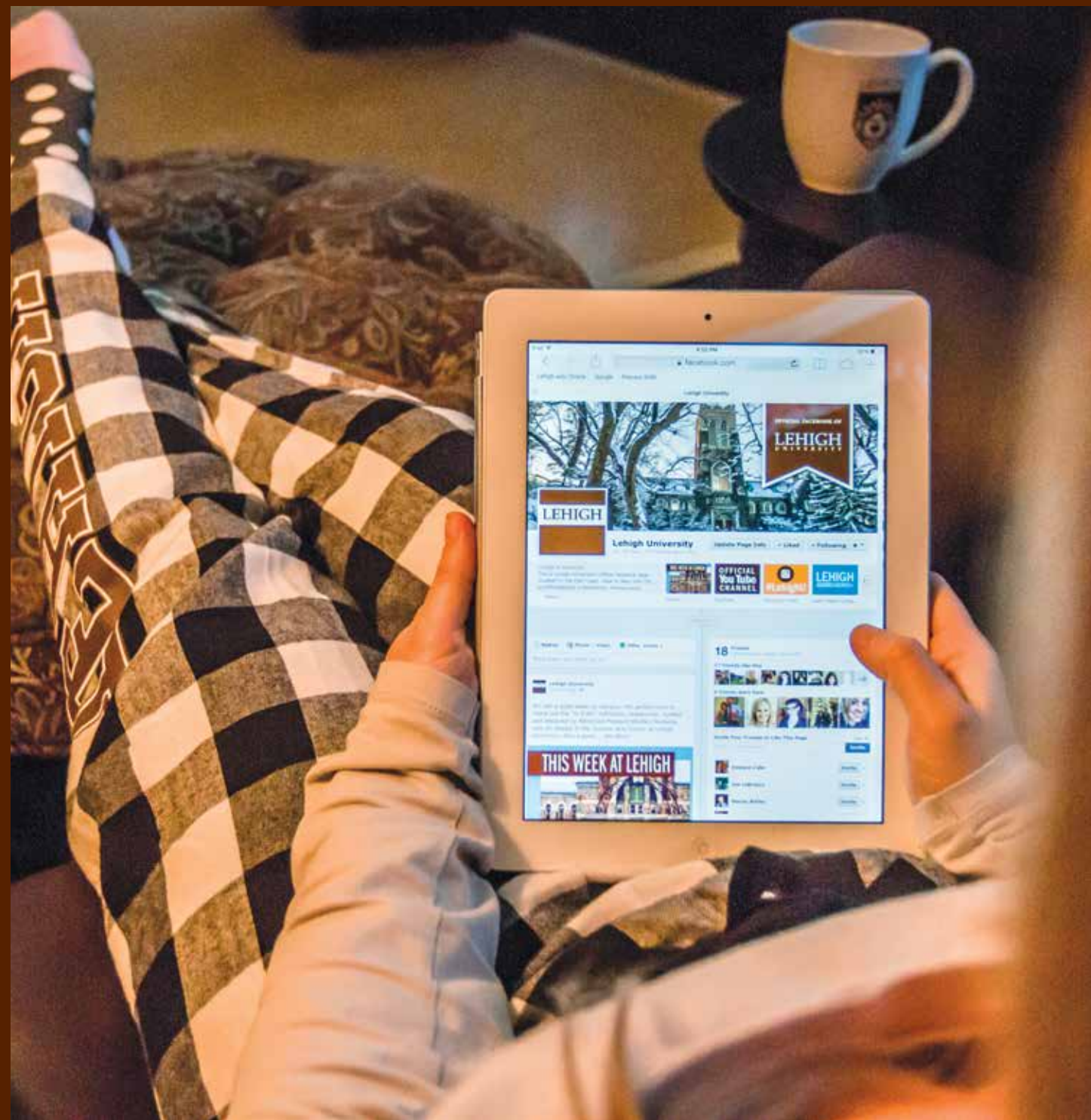
Of course, The Rivalry game is not the only event of note that weekend in the Big Apple. Lehigh Choral Arts will celebrate its proud heritage of nearly 150 years with a performance on Friday, November 21, at Carnegie Hall. Our dedicated university staff also have prepared a weekend of events and celebrations around what is sure to be a memorable game at Yankee Stadium. For

a full listing of activities, I encourage you to see Page 38 or visit lehighsports.com/rivalry150.

With The Rivalry game approaching, our university's sesquicentennial on the horizon, and the impending selection of our next president, these are truly exciting times at Lehigh.

We have much to be proud of, and much to look forward to. I am honored to serve as interim president of our beloved alma mater during this transition period.

Please enjoy reading this special edition of the *Bulletin*. I hope to see you in New York City later this fall. 



cozy up & connect



Photos that take you back and stories that keep you connected...

Follow Lehigh on all of our social media channels to get all the latest news from your alma mater.

ON CAMPUS

NEWS FROM LEHIGH



CHRISTA NEU

UMOJA House Rededicated

Lehigh celebrates diversity in ceremony at residence hall

IT WAS A FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE inside the UMOJA House in early September, as students, staff and faculty formally rededicated the residence hall following extensive upgrades there. The tours and ribbon-cutting ceremony ushered in a new chapter for the stately stone building.

“In rededicating this space, we celebrate learning in all its many and varied forms,” said Interim President Kevin Clayton ’84 ’13P. “We celebrate the diversity that enriches this campus. And we celebrate the accomplished, creative, successful students who live and learn here.”

Angela Scott, director of Academic Diversity and Outreach, and leader of the project, said the goal of her group was to have everyone “feel welcome” at the house. She worked across divisions on improvements, which included securing an in-house chef to provide meals on weekend evenings and the re-imagining of existing spaces to make them more suitable for classroom use and gatherings.

Mechanical, structural and aesthetic upgrades also were made. Parking, accessibility, security and lighting were also improved.

“What they renovated has allowed for diversity and inclusion within a community because there are so many different opportunities and so many more reasons for people to come up here to the house,” said Paul Lyons ’16, president of UMOJA House. “It’s really a place where a community is built.”

“UMOJA” means “unity,” and as Clayton said at the ceremony, “There is no more fitting word to describe what this day, and this place, is all about.”

In the fall semester, 26 students are being assisted by two in-house Gryphons. The students come from all backgrounds, class years and academic majors.

Scott said the renovation project had been considered for a couple of years, but had moved to the forefront after an incident a year ago in which racist language had been spray-painted on the house.

Yasmin Bugaighis-Abdussalam, associate director of Campus Planning and Projects, had requested the role of project manager. “I believe in the mission of UMOJA House,” she said, “and hope to continue to be a part of its ongoing success, even beyond its physical manifestation.”

FIGURE 1



Lehigh welcomed 1,299 students into the Class of 2018 in the fall. The students come from 39 U.S. states, plus Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C., and 36 other countries.

SAFETY: EMERGENSEE APP OFFERED

Lehigh is offering a free mobile app to the campus community to enhance personal safety. “EmergenSee” allows students, faculty and staff who encounter danger to tap a red icon on their smartphones and be connected directly to a dispatcher at the Lehigh University Police Department. The app provides an extra layer of security for those



who may be in an unsafe area or who may witness a crime or other dangerous situation, says Chief Ed Shupp of the LUPD.

“The app can also capture video and audio information, as well as the user’s exact location,” he says. “It can be used anywhere on campus and within a GeoFence perimeter that includes many of the surrounding neighborhoods where our students live.”

The app is the latest in a number of safety improvements on campus and the surrounding area, including additional video surveillance and lighting in key locations. The app is a companion to the LU-Alert system, which allows users to receive critical information from the university during emergencies.

FOUR QUESTIONS WITH Drew Endy ’92 ’94G, Stanford Bioengineer



CHRISTA NEU

A BUILDER AT HEART

Drew Endy ’92 ’94G, Stanford bioengineer, has redesigned genomes and invented the transcriptor, a DNA element that allows living cells to implement Boolean logic. He returned to Lehigh in September as a Howard Hughes Visiting Scholar.

1 You studied civil engineering at Lehigh and later helped found Stanford’s bioengineering program. What is the connection?

I like to build things. Biology is the ultimate platform for building. Biological materials can make stuff unbelievably well. Trees organize atoms from the atmosphere with a breathtaking nanoprecision. Sponges grow glass spindles that are very similar to fiber optic cables. Nanotechnology once caused people to worry that gray goo would cover the planet. That was wrong. Nanotechnology has already overtaken the planet—in the form of the green goo of biological material.

2 How did Lehigh prepare you to make the transition from civil to bioengineering?

Historically, civil engineering was defined as *civilian* as opposed to *military engineering*. Civil also refers to *civilization*. Do civilizations consist only of roads, water supplies, buildings? No. They also include the social contract, law, traditions, political institutions. At Lehigh, I explored the natural sciences, humanities, philosophy, political science. I struggled with genetics and biochemistry, but they reconnected me to biology as the science of living matter, which is important to engineers who want to make things.

3 What is it like to return to Lehigh after 20 years?

Many things are impressively updated, but the land along the Lehigh River has become a massive, underutilized site. It could become a major bio-based manufacturing corridor. It lies next to a major university with leading scientific, engineering and political thinkers. Combined with other elements of Lehigh, you could nucleate and lead a renewal of our society. This should be done here because of the Lehigh River and the tradition of manufacturing and the excellence of engineering, coupled with the fundamental sciences at Lehigh.

4 What should bioengineering contribute to the 21st century?

We have a chance, via biology and biotechnology, to reinvent how civilization works and to do so in ways that allow humanity and nature to flourish in partnership—to reduce energy and environmental loads, to defend natural biodiversity, and so on. But biology and biotechnology are too important to be left to scientists and engineers alone. I’d like to see a Renaissance of science and engineering that enables people, as citizens and not just consumers, to play a role in deciding what kind of world we wish for.



ISIS: ‘A Very, Very Serious Crisis’

Henri Barkey discusses Iraq, Syria, Turkey and the Kurds

HENRI J. BARKEY, the Bernard L. and Bertha F. Cohen Professor of International Relations, is the author of 60 articles and book chapters and the author, coauthor or editor of seven books and monographs. He appears regularly on CNN, PBS, BBC and NPR to share his expertise on the Middle East, Turkey, the Kurds and Iraq, and contributes articles to *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The American Interest*, *The Wall Street Journal* and other journals. He served as a Policy Planning Staff Member with the U.S. State Department from 1998 to 2000. Barkey met in August with Bulletin associate editor Kurt Pfitzer to discuss recent events in Syria, Turkey and Iraq, including the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

IN ADDITION TO BEHEADING AMERICAN JOURNALISTS, ISIS HAS KILLED THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE, INCLUDING CHRISTIANS, SHI'ITE MUSLIMS AND OTHER RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC MINORITIES. IS ISIS MORE VICIOUS THAN AL-QAEDA?

ISIS and al-Qaeda are cut from the same cloth; they are one and the same when it comes to ideology. They differ on tactics, but ISIS is an outgrowth of al-Qaeda. Paradoxically, if they exist as two separate organizations, it has much to do with the personal ambitions of leaders, especially the ISIS leader.

DOES ISIS REPRESENT A GREATER THREAT TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND TO THE WEST THAN AL-QAEDA DOES?

In some way this is the case. ISIS is from the region, whereas al-Qaeda remains ensconced in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Al-Qaeda works through affiliates. ISIS is not only home-grown in the Middle East, but it is primarily focused on this region.

This is indeed a very, very serious crisis. ISIS fighters are coming from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf and also from Europe, Russia and the U.S. One guy from Florida went to Syria, came back to the U.S. and then returned to Syria and blew himself up. He could have done it here. And an attack in May on the Jewish Museum of Brussels killed four people; it was committed by a Frenchman who had been fighting with jihadists in Syria.



STRINGER/REUTERS/CORBIS

HAVE THE U.S. AND IRAQ BEEN CAUGHT FLAT-FOOTED BY ISIS'S RAPID GROWTH AND MILITARY SUCCESSES?

Many people have been warning for a long time that something like [ISIS] would happen. The two Sunni jihadist movements [in Syria and in Iraq] were becoming one. The border between Syria and Iraq has disappeared. Iraqi Shi'ite militants have been fighting in Syria for [President Bashar al-Assad], while Iraqi Sunnis are fighting in Syria against Assad. The Iraqi and U.S. governments were completely unprepared for what emerged. This was a failure of imagination.

A SERIOUS CRISIS Henri Barkey says ISIS is an outgrowth of al-Qaeda, with fighters coming from Saudi Arabia, the Gulf, Europe, Russia and the United States.

Part of the reason the conflagration is happening is that the central Iraqi government under outgoing prime minister Nuri al-Maliki really messed up...He pushed out the people who balanced his sectarian interests and had genuine support in other, but primarily the Sunni, communities...Maliki is now gone [but] he's done so much damage that it will take a long time to repair the institutions that he weakened.

questions without answers. We cannot predict these things.

PRESIDENT OBAMA HAS STATED HIS DESIRE FOR A LIMITED U.S. MILITARY ROLE WITH REGARD TO ISIS. IS THIS REALISTIC?

Yes. Obama ran for president on a platform that opposed our involvement in the Iraq war and favored getting out of Iraq. He is against putting

"ISIS IS GOING TO BE DEFEATED IN THE END. THIS WILL HAPPEN IN IRAQ FIRST, WHERE THE IRAQI ARMY AND THE KURDISH FORCES WILL REORGANIZE, ALTHOUGH THIS IS GOING TO TAKE SOME TIME."

—HENRI J. BARKEY

The U.S. played this badly too. President Obama didn't seem interested, and the White House did not warn him of this impending development...The first two national security advisers to Obama [James L. Jones and Thomas E. Donilon] were not foreign policy thinkers; they were completely unprepared for the job at hand.

WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR ISIS' SUCCESS?

There are a plethora of militias in Syria...ISIS has emerged as the strongest primarily because of its successes in Iraq, especially its defeat of the Iraqi military and the seizing of so much off-the-shelf military equipment in Mosul...Because of this, it attracts other jihadists. Paradoxically, the U.S., by targeting ISIS, adds to its notoriety and cachet.

WHAT ARE ISIS'S CHANCES OF BUILDING ON ITS TERRITORIAL GAINS AND ESTABLISHING AN ISLAMIC STATE?

ISIS is going to be defeated but not eliminated altogether. This will happen in Iraq first, where the Iraqi Army and Kurdish forces will reorganize. ISIS is in a much better situation in Syria primarily because the Assad regime has deliberately refused to engage it and because of all the equipment it has moved from Iraq. ISIS is far stronger in Syria than the so-called moderate opposition. We won't understand the repercussions of what's happening now for a long time. What's going to replace ISIS, how are Iraq and Syria going to be organized—these are

boots on the ground. Mission creep in this conflict is a distinct possibility. In principle, it should not happen here because this is a fight that the Iraqis have to win, not us. We can't fight this one for them as this would have to involve tens of thousands of American troops.

YOU HAVE WRITTEN OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSE OF THE SYRIAN CIVIL WAR. PLEASE EXPLAIN.

A huge number of people moved from the countryside into the cities because of the drought [that afflicted more than half of Syria from 2006-11] and because of changes in the usage of the rivers upstream. The fighting, and everything related to it, further undermined the water infrastructure. It takes years to rebuild an infrastructure. Even if peace were to be at hand tomorrow, it will take a generation for these places to recover and rebuild. People have not paid enough attention to this.

WHAT ROLE HAS TURKEY PLAYED IN THE CIVIL WAR IN SYRIA?

The Turks have facilitated the jihadists coming and going in and out of Syria. They had no other choice than to back the opposition to Assad, but like everyone else they miscalculated and thought the Assad regime would not last. Turkey can shut off the influx of jihadists and flow of arms to them...The Syrian regime may appear to be a benefactor were this to happen...However, it is hard to see Assad remaining in power very long.



UPDATE BRINGING THE WORLD TO WILLIAMS HALL

From the time of pocket watches to the age of cell phones, Williams Hall has been serving Lehigh students in the sciences and engineering. After renovations are completed in 2015, the historical building will have fresh purpose as a hub of international activity.

Thanks to a \$5 million gift from Herb Roemmele '53 and generous leadership gifts from Sharon and James Maida '85 '17P and an anonymous donor, the redesign will include community areas to foster student and faculty collaboration. The Herbert A. Roemmele '53 Global Commons will be a two-story atrium with a main floor and mezzanine. Video feeds will live stream news stories from around the world.

The departments of modern languages and literatures, religion studies, and sociology and anthropology and the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs will move into the building. To ensure all students are exposed to global life at Lehigh, most student services and programs will be located there.

Attention also is being given to the building's exterior to draw students from upper and lower campus. For more information, visit alum.lu/williamshall or call 610-758-2837.

—Dawn Thren

Mountaintop in Motion

Students take risks and find success as the Mountaintop initiative surges forward

A GROUP OF STUDENTS PAINSTAKINGLY BUILT a 6-by-8-foot mud hut on the grounds outside Mountaintop’s Building C this summer for their research into ways to reduce the indoor air pollution plaguing parts of the developing world.

To make the replica of a cooking hut typical of a rural Ugandan community, they dug holes in the rocky soil to anchor wood posts, as well as toted fallen limbs from nearby woods to weave the hut’s frame. With their feet, they mixed clay, sand, water and sawdust in a kiddie pool to make cob for the walls, which they built by hand. Later, they boiled water over a wood fire inside the hut to measure the amount of black carbon released in the air.

Steps away, inside Building C, other teams of students tackled a host of different projects. One group hauled old distillery vats to the site and built a system for aquaponics, a soil-less, water conserving food production system, where they grew lettuce while cultivating tilapia. Another team designed and 3-D printed prototypes of hand exoskeletons to help kids who suffered strokes to regain movement. Another group made robots and apps as they researched ways to create “Smart Spaces” that anticipated people’s wants and needs. Two other groups set out to make documentaries.

“That’s the way everyone’s learning up here—by doing,” said David DiFrancesco ’16, as he surveyed the cavernous room mid-summer. He was part of Project Mathete (pronounced MAH-theh-teh), which set out to explore and to demonstrate how students learn best. “So we kind of theorized, everything that everyone learns up here, they’re going to remember for a long, long, long, long time.”

What began with a handful of ventures in 2013 took off this summer, as the Mountaintop experience provided a larger number of students with the freedom—and space—to explore, discover and collaborate on more than 20 projects across all disciplines. The university plans to offer the program year-round beginning next summer.

“The biggest change is a matter of scale,” said Alan J. Snyder, vice president and associate provost for research and graduate studies. “What we saw this year was a huge step toward what we envisioned from the start.”

Students were given the liberty to define the scope of their projects, to take risks intellectually, to make mistakes, and to change course. As in the initial year, there were no assignments, no grades. Faculty mentors focused on coaching and supporting students in the process of discovery. Not only were students able to collaborate with fellow students on their multidisciplinary teams, but they were also able to brainstorm with students from other projects and turn to any faculty member for guidance.

“One of the most exciting aspects of Mountaintop is that it provides an opportunity for hands-on learning and putting ideas

into practice,” said Michael Spear, assistant professor of computer science and engineering and a Smart Spaces mentor. “In the classroom, it’s easy to overlook how much of a problem has already been defined, designed, and solved, before students even read the assignment. At Mountaintop, students do all of the initial work, instead of just producing the end result.”

Some teams saw their projects go in different directions than first envisioned. The students who devised exoskeletons for rehabilitation originally planned on creating prosthetic hands. When consultations with Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital revealed a lack of assistive devices for rehabilitation, they shifted direction to have a greater impact.

“THAT’S THE WAY EVERYONE’S
LEARNING UP HERE—BY DOING.”

—DAVID DIFRANCESCO ’16

“If we want students to succeed at things we haven’t thought of,” said Snyder, “their success depends upon their ability to observe, pose questions, and explore possibilities on their own. We want them to become skilled at independent inquiry and discovery.”

As a measure of the impact on students, several teams will continue their work beyond Mountaintop. GR2OW members, who aimed to change the way Lehigh gets rid of its food waste, will expand their composting efforts and establish a student club. The Lehigh Aquaponics team is looking to perhaps partner with other sustainability groups on campus and pursue a provisional patent on equipment.

“I like the culture of excellence that this provides,” said Alex Derish ’15, of Lehigh Aquaponics, in assessing the Mountaintop experience. “If you give a Lehigh student a problem, they’re going to find a way to solve it. If you give 100 Lehigh students a problem, they’re going to find a really interesting way to solve it.”



CHRISTA NEU

A GLOBAL PROBLEM

Students build a cooking hut in order to test levels of black carbon air pollution.

AT A GLANCE: THE 2014 MOUNTAINTOP PROJECTS

TACKLING INDOOR AIR POLLUTION

Students built a cooking hut, similar to what is found in Uganda, for their research into ways to naturally ventilate huts and reduce the indoor air pollution plaguing much of the developing world. Wearing face masks to protect themselves from harmful matter, the students boiled water over a wood fire inside the hut, then used handheld black carbon monitors to measure the level of black particles released into the air with, and without, ventilation. “When you breathe in black carbon, this tiny particulate matter, it causes respiratory disorders or it triggers respiratory problems, like asthma attacks,” said mentor Breana Holland, associate professor of political science. The project, an engineering and social science research initiative, also examined social issues that lead families to burn wood for fuel.

FOOD FOR ALL

Using former distillery vats that they hauled from New Jersey, the Lehigh Aquaponics team developed an educational, soil-less food-production system in which they grew lettuce while cultivating tilapia. “The ultimate goal,” said Alex Derish ’15, “is to remotely drop the tanks in an environment that wouldn’t otherwise be able to produce food.” The students hoped to educate people not only on how to use their system but also about the benefits of aquaponics, including reductions in land and water usage.

RACE AND DIVERSITY AT LEHIGH

The Engineering Equality project team focused on producing a documentary that would explore race relations at Lehigh University in the last 50 years. Producers delved into historical resources to help tell the story. “We’re hoping that Lehigh sees there has been progress, but there’s more progress that can be made, and that progress is achievable,” said Paul Lyons ’16. “Our end goal is to inspire.”



CHRISTA NEU

THE GR2OW PROJECT

GR2OW, or the Green Resource Recovery of Waste, aimed to turn Lehigh's food waste into compost that can be used to fertilize greenery and other plant beds on campus. To that end, students composted about 450 pounds of food waste, mostly from Lehigh's Brodhead Student Restaurant, at the Lehigh Community Garden on the Goodman campus. In fall, team members will expand their composting efforts, establish a student club and work as sustainability interns. "It matters on a big picture level," said Tori Wiedorn '17, "because we're not going to survive if we don't change how we do things, if we don't change how we do waste."

TECHNOLOGY FOR SMART LIVING

For a cluster of students, it was all about "Smart Spaces"—how to track people's movements, anticipate people's wants and needs, save energy and build and operate robots that can help people in need. Smart Spaces also was a site for the National Science Foundation's Research Experiences for



Undergraduates (REU). As part of the projects, students were developing a low-cost interactive robot they called LILI (Lehigh Instrument for Learning Interaction) for use for research with autistic children. Others worked on technologies that can be integrated to create Smart Spaces, such as a poor man's bar code for helping people keep track of items in their home.

3-D PRINTING TO HELP KIDS

Using 3-D printing, a team of students created prototypes of hand exoskeletons for possible use in pediatric rehabilitation. In collaboration with Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network, the students designed and created the low-cost exoskeletons with the aim of helping children who lost muscle control in their hands, possibly from strokes. "An exoskeleton can go around the hand and facilitate some kind of movement in hopes of molding the brain to relearn the movements that the hand does," said Elena Ramirez '15, one of the students on the team.

—Mary Ellen Alu

LEARNING BY DOING

Students at Mountaintop tackled a host of research and community projects.

FISCAL CHALLENGES

CBE HOSTS SYMPOSIUM

Economists, lawmakers and community leaders converged on Lehigh for a daylong symposium on the fiscal challenges facing Pennsylvania as its population ages, its health care costs rise and the gap between state revenue and spending potentially widens.



CHRISTA NEU

Georgette Chapman Phillips, the Kevin L. and Lisa A. Clayton Dean of the College of Business and Economics, said the symposium represented "the ethos of Lehigh University—the theoretical paired with the practical in a cross-disciplinary exploration of the problems of the day."

The timing of the event was auspicious, given that Gov. Tom Corbett had signed a bill the previous day that allows Philadelphia to impose a cigarette tax to fund public schools. The state's fiscal health also figures into the 2014 gubernatorial election.

"These are complicated issues," Phillips told attendees, "and we hope that this type of forum facilitates a better understanding as we strive to make informed decisions."

Among the speakers and panelists were Robert Strauss, professor of economics at Carnegie Mellon University; U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent; Pennsylvania Revenue Secretary Daniel Meuser; and Sharon Ward, executive director of the Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center.



STEPHANIE VETO

Listening Beyond One's Horizons

At home and abroad, Dean Donald Hall seeks harmony and peace

THE EXCHANGE OCCURRED SIX YEARS AGO at the International Humanities Conference in Tunisia, but it remains fresh in Donald Hall's memory.

An American film scholar, Hall recalls, couldn't comprehend why her Kuwaiti colleague believed in wearing a veil. She refused to accept the Arab academic's explanations that shrouding her face was a sign of cultural sensitivity in a mostly Muslim country and a useful mask of anonymity. According to the Western feminist, the Middle Easterner was not only a willing victim of oppression, she was "wrong."

Six years later, Hall remains disturbed by the American teacher's holier-than-thou attitude. He advocates what he believes is a path forward—toward tolerance, understanding, cooperation—as the Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel Dean of Lehigh's College of Arts and Sciences, where for three years he's been trying to turn dueling monologues into dialogues.

Hall has built his campaign on the platforms of internationalization, diversity and interdisciplinary harmony. During his tenure the College has sponsored a conference on the Syrian civil war and provided seed funding for the Sustainable Development Program, enabling students to help poor villagers from Costa Rica to Senegal. On Hall's watch two-thirds of faculty hires represent underrepresented groups.

His mission will be boosted by Lehigh's 2015 conference Feb. 17-19 on Malcolm X, one of the 20th century's most galvanizing, polarizing

leaders in race, religion and politics.

"Productive dialogue is well-considered and robustly held," says Hall. "There's no room for totally overwriting someone else's world view."

Hall could write a book about being over-written. He grew up in a small, predominantly white Alabama city simmering with anger over civil rights and the Civil War. While teaching English as a Peace Corps volunteer in Rwanda, he paid close attention to violent conflicts between Belgians and Africans and between African tribes. As a gay man he's been dismissed as "diseased, perverted, damned." He's turned the other cheek by advocating same-sex rights and by creating academic programs in gay and lesbian studies.

Hall lobbies for forging new alliances in his keynote address "Looking Beyond Our Horizons," which he delivered this year in Japan and England at cultural-studies conferences presented by the International Academic Forum. His global connections drive him to make Lehigh more globally connected.

From living in Chelsea, Alabama, where a Ku Klux Klan chapter burned a huge cross on a baseball field across the street from his house, to authorizing a conference on Malcolm X, once the KKK's Public Enemy No. 1, Hall has come to devote his life to the cause of greater tolerance and understanding.

"Isn't it interesting?" he says of his life path. "My Civil War ancestors are probably spinning in their graves."—Geoff Gehman '89 M.A.

APPOINTED AI EXPERT TAPPED BY NSF

Hector Muñoz-Avila, associate professor of computer science and engineering, has begun a two-year rotation as program director in the National Science Foundation's Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering. He will head the Robust Intelligence Cluster, making recommendations on funding proposals and helping shape the nation's direction in science, engineering and education.

Muñoz-Avila is a pioneer in the new field of goal-driven autonomy. He applies case-based reasoning and other artificial intelligence (AI) techniques to intelligent systems, enabling them to sift through thousands of stimuli and data points, and to pinpoint unusual patterns or anomalies. These systems learn from their experiences and mistakes and take corrective action without human intervention.



At Lehigh, Muñoz-Avila works with structural engineers to predict when bridges will fail, with electrical engineers to integrate the components needed to generate energy from ocean waves, and with psychologists to develop computational models that represent semantic interference and other phenomena that occur inside the brain. He spent last spring at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology studying the application of AI to deep-sea oil-drilling rigs.

Promoting Healthy Behaviors

A researcher of risky alcohol use joins Community Health cluster

LUCY NAPPER, A BRITISH-BORN PSYCHOLOGIST whose research has included risky alcohol use on college campuses, joined Lehigh this fall as the first person hired into the university’s Community Health cluster.

Napper, who was co-director and visiting assistant research professor at the HeadsUp Alcohol Research Lab at Loyola Marymount University, will take on the role of Quantitative Health Data Specialist in the Community Health cluster as well as teach courses in statistics and the psychology of drug use and addiction.

“There’s enormous potential to do some exciting projects with the community and to promote healthy behaviors in the Lehigh Valley,” said Napper, who joins a core group of five faculty members from the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education. “One of the reasons I chose to join the team here at Lehigh is that there are already many faculty who are enthusiastic about this [cluster] and who are engaged in health and community research.”

Napper’s background is in health psychology, which includes trying to understand how people make decisions about their health and why they engage in risky health behaviors, and how to design effective prevention and intervention programs to promote healthier behaviors.

“Lucy Napper comes to Lehigh with a stellar background in community-based participatory research,” said Donald E. Hall, the Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who is leading the cluster. “She has a strong external funding record and a deep commitment to working on substance abuse and mental health issues among college-age students and in minority communities.”


A graduate of the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, Napper earned her doctorate in health and social psychology and her bachelor’s degree in psychology. She completed her postdoctoral work in HIV prevention and

developing and evaluating new measures related to drug use, sexual risk, and mental health. She was recipient of a National Institutes of Health Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award to develop a measure of HIV risk perception.

The Community Health cluster, announced last year, will work closely with community members in all aspects of research.
—Mary Ellen Alu

COMMUNITY HEALTH
Lucy Napper will take on role of Quantitative Health Data Specialist.

FIGURE 2



About a quarter of college students report academic consequences of their drinking, including lower grades, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

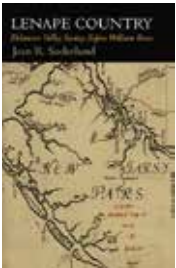
PUBLISHED NEW LIGHT ON THE LENAPES

The relationships among the Lenape Indians and Dutch, Swedish, Finnish and British colonists are at the core of *Lenape Country: Delaware Valley Society before William Penn* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014), a book by Jean Soderlund, professor of history. The book covers the early 1600s to the mid-1700s.

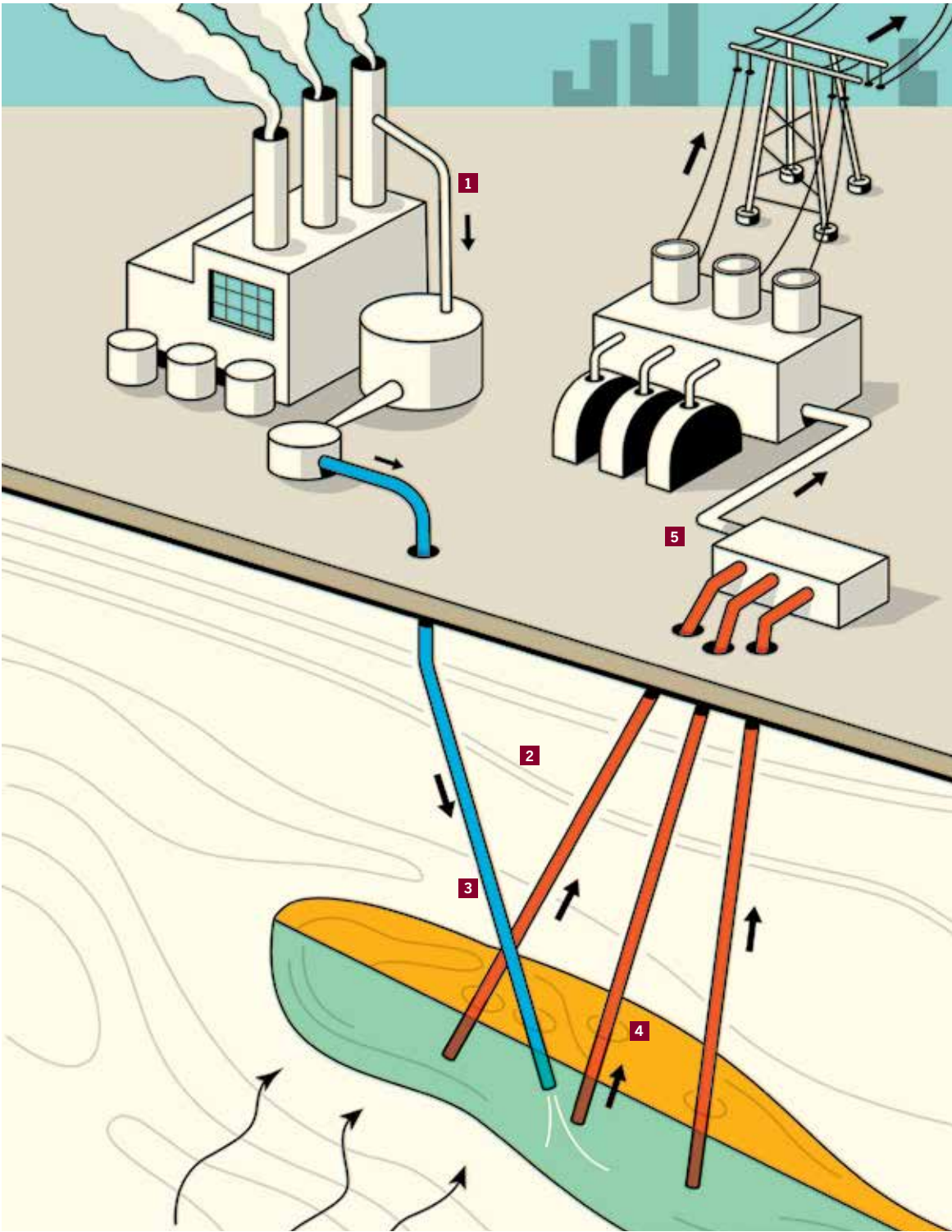
When Penn sailed to America in 1682 with a royal charter, the Lenapes inhabited the region now bounded by northern Delaware, eastern Pennsylvania, central New Jersey and the Atlantic Ocean.

Together with early Swedish and Finnish colonists, says Soderlund, the Lenapes created the distinctive features of Delaware Valley society. Their ideals included respect for other cultures, peace between Native Americans and Europeans, religious liberty, an emphasis on trade, and a belief in personal freedom. Lenapes had no central government, each town operating independently except for diplomacy and in war. Lenape towns were led by a trusted spokesman, or sachem, but they were democratic, and many adults had a voice in making important decisions.

Penn’s Quakers reinforced this culture, says Soderlund, but their sheer numbers eventually pushed most Lenapes out of their homelands in eastern Pennsylvania. Nonetheless, the Lenape impact on Delaware Valley society continued through the early 18th century.



SCHEMATIC Geothermal / CO₂ recycling



1 Carbon Capture CO₂ is captured from a fossil-fuel power plant.

2 Aquifer Prep Engineers drill an injection well (blue) and production wells (red) into a deep saline aquifer (DSA) nearby.

3 CO₂ Prep CO₂ is piped from the fossil fuel to the geothermal power plant. It is heated and pressurized and injected into the aquifer via the injection well.

4 Warm Regards The supercritical CO₂ percolates through the DSA, then heats up and rises through the production well.

5 Power Play The CO₂ can turn the turbines of the geothermal plant to power the generator. Or it can be diverted to a heat exchanger working with an organic fluid or other medium. The heat would convert this fluid to steam to turn the turbines.

LEHIGH’S ENERGY RESEARCH CENTER and the University of Michoacan San Nicolas de Hidalgo are developing and testing methods of using carbon dioxide from oil- and coal-fired power plants to enhance the extraction of geothermal energy from underground aquifers and rock formations. The project will help reduce emis-

sions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), a greenhouse gas, while boosting the use of geothermal power. Geothermal plants generate electricity continuously, not just when the wind blows or the sun shines. And unlike fossil fuel plants, geothermal plants produce power cleanly.
—Kurt Pfitzer



Foiling Bugs That Foil Drugs

An organic chemist builds tools to help the immune system fight bacterial infections

EVERY WEEK, faculty members in the department of chemistry meet over lunch to discuss current literature in the field. The conversation at one meeting led Marcos Pires to what he calls a “crazy little idea.”

Pires, assistant professor of chemistry, connected studies about a unique characteristic of bacteria with other studies of immune systems that had been trained to attack cancer cells. He wondered: What would happen if the immune system itself could be trained to attack bacteria?

In theory, the immune system should do this on its own. However, bacteria are adept at hiding. They can lie dormant, obscured from detection by the immune system. Antibiotics work because they attack a large population of dividing bacteria. They don’t work when the bacteria are hidden.

“Unfortunately, a lot of the antibiotics we use now were discovered 20, 30, 40 years ago,” says Pires. “[Back then] we were coming up with new drugs, and the bugs didn’t have time to evolve [and develop] resistance. When we stopped making new drugs, the bugs found ways around the drugs. This has been getting worse and worse, and without new drugs coming, it’s projected that it could lead to some really bad scenarios.”

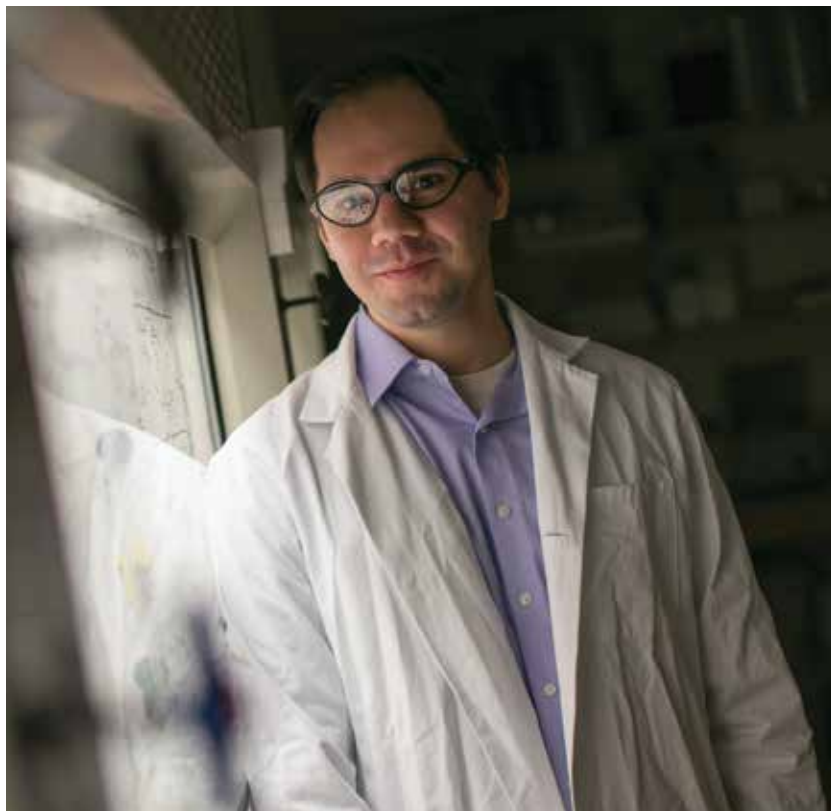
Rather than develop a classic antibiotic that will attack the bacteria itself, Pires is looking to stimulate the immune system to do what it’s supposed to do — find and destroy pathogens.

Bacteria are made up of amino acids, the building blocks of living organisms. Pires’ research capitalizes on the discovery of bacteria’s unique use of a particular type of amino acids called D-amino acids. For reasons still unknown, bacteria contained inside a flask will replace their D-amino acids with unnatural ones added to that flask. The bacteria will then incorporate the unnatural D-amino acids onto their peptidoglycan, or cell wall.

In the lab, Pires and his students made unnatural D-amino acid derivatives and tagged them with an antigen that draws a response from a pool of antibodies that most human beings have. As predicted, the bacteria placed the tagged D-amino acids on their surface, essentially marking themselves for destruction.

Pires then added the antibodies that seek out and bind to that particular antigen and marked them with a fluorescent tag, allowing him to verify the antibodies had found and coated the bacteria’s surface.

Moving forward, Pires and his team have a few hurdles to clear. Their initial work required a large amount of the unnatural D-amino acids to get enough antigens on the surface of the



DOUGLAS BENEDICT

bacteria, an amount that would be too great for use in a drug intended for humans. They’re trying to reduce the amount of D-amino acids required for the same result.

Also, until now, every research group that has conducted experiments using this strategy has worked with bacteria in a flask. Nobody knows if the swapping of D-amino acids would happen with a bacterial infection in a human.

For this next step, Pires plans to work with basic model systems, starting with fish and, if successful, moving to mice. Financing more advanced steps can be costly, so Pires is working to optimize his research technique before seeking additional funding.

He hopes his research will one day help provide the human immune system with a strategic tool for the biological game of hide-and-seek in which antibiotics are becoming less and less effective. “Right now it’s just one step beyond a concept,” he says.

But it is one step closer. —*Kelly Hochbein*



BOB ADELMAN/CORBIS

Malcolm X: 50 Years Later

Scholars to explore race, religion and revolution in today’s world

ON FEB. 21, 1965, MALCOLM X WAS GUNNED DOWN by members of the Nation of Islam, under what remain highly contested circumstances, at a rally in New York City. Now, as the 50th anniversary of his assassination nears, Lehigh’s Africana Studies program and political science department are planning a three-day conference to commemorate the slain African-American leader’s life and legacy.

The conference, “Malcolm X’s World 50 Years Later: Race, Religion and Revolution in the 21st Century,” will bring together scholars from around the world for a dialogue on issues that Malcolm X was committed to, including equality and social justice, all of which are timely and still relevant today.

“This conference is situated within the context of the various commemorations over the last several years about important milestones in black history—the Voting Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act, the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington,” says James Braxton Peterson, associate professor of English and Director of Africana Studies. And Malcolm X, he says, must be among the prominent figures of the civil rights era to be commemorated in American history.

The conference will be held Feb. 17-19 at various campus locations. Talks by keynote speakers will be live streamed, and people can join the conversation at #casdialogue.

Saladin Ambar, associate professor of political science and author of *Malcolm X at Oxford Union: Politics in a Global Era*, says, “The idea of scholars coming, not only from the states but from around the world, is to suggest that [Malcolm X] is worthy of study, he’s worthy of research, he’s worthy of being thought of in the context of the most elite academic institutions devoting time and attention to thinking about who he was.”

Malcolm X was 39 when he was killed.

“We lost one of the most gifted political thinkers, one of the most charismatic and compelling public speakers in the history of America,” says Peterson, reflecting on Malcolm X’s death. “We lost a tremendous amount of momentum in the movement for equality and social justice, and most importantly...we lost what was probably our best opportunity to have a more holistic and respectful engagement with Islam.” —*Mary Ellen Alu*

FIGURE 3



Lehigh’s Class of 2018 is one of the most diverse classes ever admitted to the university. Students of color account for 24 percent of the class; international students, 8 percent; white, 66 percent; and unknown, 2 percent.



Kart also studies the history of European collection of African art, specifically figurative sculptures and anthropomorphic items that were brought to Europe from colonial territories as exotic commodities.

“These objects,” says Kart, “were collected primarily in the late 19th and early 20th century. They represent a very small snippet of the artworks of certain cultures as observed from the outside.

“Contemporary artists examine the objects in European and American museums as found objects...dislocated from the past that can be reinvented. An artist like El Anatsui [Ghana] might take bottle caps and turn them into a contemporary sculpture that looks like a traditional textile in some way.”

Taking Jazz to a ‘Purer Place’

Bill Warfield, trumpeter and composer, finds new directions and intimate venues for old standards

BILL WARFIELD WAS HAVING ONE OF THOSE MAGICAL MUSICAL NIGHTS when the planets don’t just align, they dance. The trumpeter was playing “All the Things You Are,” “Bye Bye Blackbird” and other jazz standards at a club in Prague with three crackerjack Czechs. It didn’t matter that he hadn’t rehearsed with his pick-up comrades, or that he’d never gigged with the drummer. The groove was so good, so uncommon, it was almost, well, telepathic.

“It was a great night,” says Warfield, an associate professor of music who heads Lehigh’s jazz-studies program. “We loved it, and the crowd loved it; talk about thinking you’re a rock star for a minute. We walked out of there going, yeah, this is a great idea—we should take it on the road.”



‘A PURER PLACE’

Bill Warfield will showcase new CD “Trumpet Story” on bicontinental tour.

Warfield’s wish will launch on Feb. 28, when his new bicontinental combo opens a bicontinental tour in the Zoellner Arts Center, the residence of his New York Jazz Repertory Orchestra. The core members of the International Jazz Core-Tet will be saxophonist Jens Jensen, an old friend from Denmark; guitarist Libor Smoldas and organist Jakub Zomer, newer colleagues from Czechoslovakia; and saxophonist Glenn Cashman. Guesting at Zoellner will be drummer Jeff “Tain” Watts, the only core member of groups led by the brothers Wynton and Branford Marsalis, both of whom have played Lehigh.

The Core-Tet tour will continue in New York City, where Warfield will showcase his new CD “Trumpet Story” (Planet Arts Records), a showcase for renowned trumpeter Randy Brecker. Also scheduled are shows in Portugal and a festival in Morocco. The project is funded by a New Directions fellowship from Lehigh’s College of Arts and Sciences.

Warfield specializes in taking old tunes in new directions. For 15 seasons his orchestra has played his arrangements of classics all over the map, everything from Jimi Hendrix’s psychedelic-rock tunes to Miles Davis’ “Sketches of Spain,” a landmark 1960 union of jazz, classical and global. His music has been all over the map in Europe, too. The Spanish government hired him to write a “Hollywood Jazz” revue for the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona. His “Le Jazz Hot” suite premiered at the 2000 Paris Jazz Festival with commissioning saxophonist Dave Liebman. Last year Warfield guested at the Royal Conservatory in Denmark, where he and Jensen, the school’s jazz director, debuted Warfield’s suite from “Trumpet Story.”

“We’re returning to a purer place,” says Warfield of himself and his Core-Tet comrades. “We’re taking away most of the marketing, removing the corporate stuff, losing the urban-chic appeal. We’re congregating in intimate spaces and performing for real fans who love real music.” —Geoff Gehman ’89 M.A.



BACKSTAGE

SPOOKY RHINO MASKS

Designer Erica Hoelscher steamed recently with the Idiopathic Ridiculopathy Consortium of Philadelphia to make costumes and scenery for a production of Eugene Ionesco’s play *Rhinoceros*.

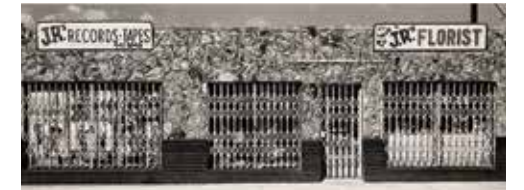
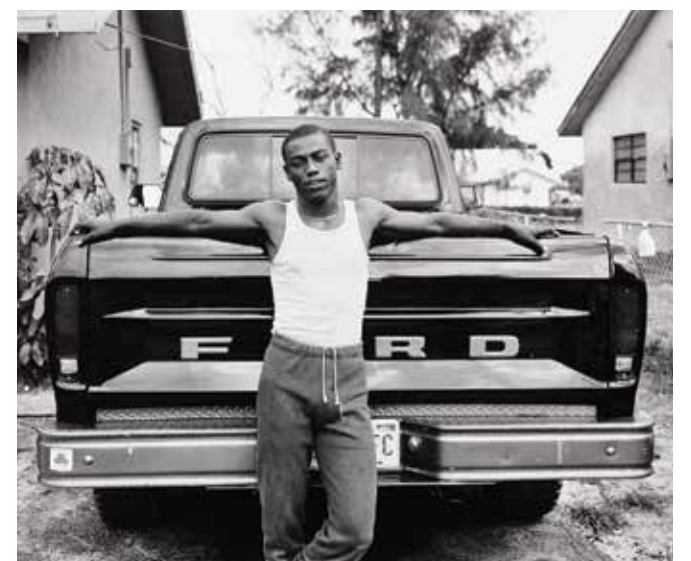
In *Rhinoceros*, residents of a small French town turn into rhinos over the course of three acts. After believing the metamorphosis is a disease, they realize people are choosing to change. As more make the switch, others want to follow the crowd. By the end of the play, only the central character, Béranger, remains human.

Hoelscher, professor of theatre, costumed 15 characters with rhino masks. “I wanted there to be a physical, tangible way the actor turns into a rhinoceros. Over the course of the play, rhinoceros heads start appearing around Béranger. They become increasingly elaborate until they are incredibly ornate. I wanted something real that would make a connection for the audience [to] the rhinoceroses.”

Working with Lisa Glover ’13 ’14G, Hoelscher used computer-aided design and a laser cutter to make origami-like masks from high-quality cardboard. Glover founded a company that sells kits for assembling 3-D dinosaurs.

“Erica Hoelscher’s many rhino masks,” wrote a *Philadelphia Inquirer* reviewer, “are delightfully spooky...and her costumes colorful and witty.”

EXHIBITION Broward County



MICHAEL A. SMITH was commissioned by Broward County, Florida, in 1989 to document its residents and their surroundings. The Bucks County photographer used his signature large-format camera to find a personal point-of-view in the black-and-white images recently displayed in the Siegel Gallery at Iacocca Hall.

“The challenge always is to balance the allure of the subject matter with my own visual concerns and sense of abstraction,” Smith writes.

To see images from Smith’s exhibit visit www.luag.org and visit past exhibitions.



LEHIGH ATHLETICS

Versatile Van Streepen

Jade Van Streepen's success, both on the court and off, is pushing Lehigh volleyball forward

GROWING UP, JADE VAN STREEPEN PLAYED MANY SPORTS, none more than soccer. And she was good enough that, for a good long while, she thought she would continue her soccer career into college. Then Van Streepen moved from California to Texas, where she was introduced to volleyball.

The rest is history. “My type of athleticism was really good for volleyball,” she says. “Volleyball was the new and exciting sport that I was also good at, so it stuck.”

Soccer's loss is Lehigh volleyball's gain. If she hadn't moved, it's quite possible she wouldn't be playing the sport and wouldn't have ended up at Lehigh, where she's developed into an All-Patriot League player on the court and an Environmental Engineering major with a 3.88 cumulative GPA in the classroom.

During her time on South Mountain, Van Streepen has thrived. On the court, she was named a second team All-Patriot League honoree last season while earning Academic All-League laurels for her success in the classroom. Her contributions have played a big role in pushing the entire program forward; the Mountain Hawks won 19 games her freshman year and 20 games last season, advancing to the Patriot League Tournament both years under head coach Bob Bertucci.

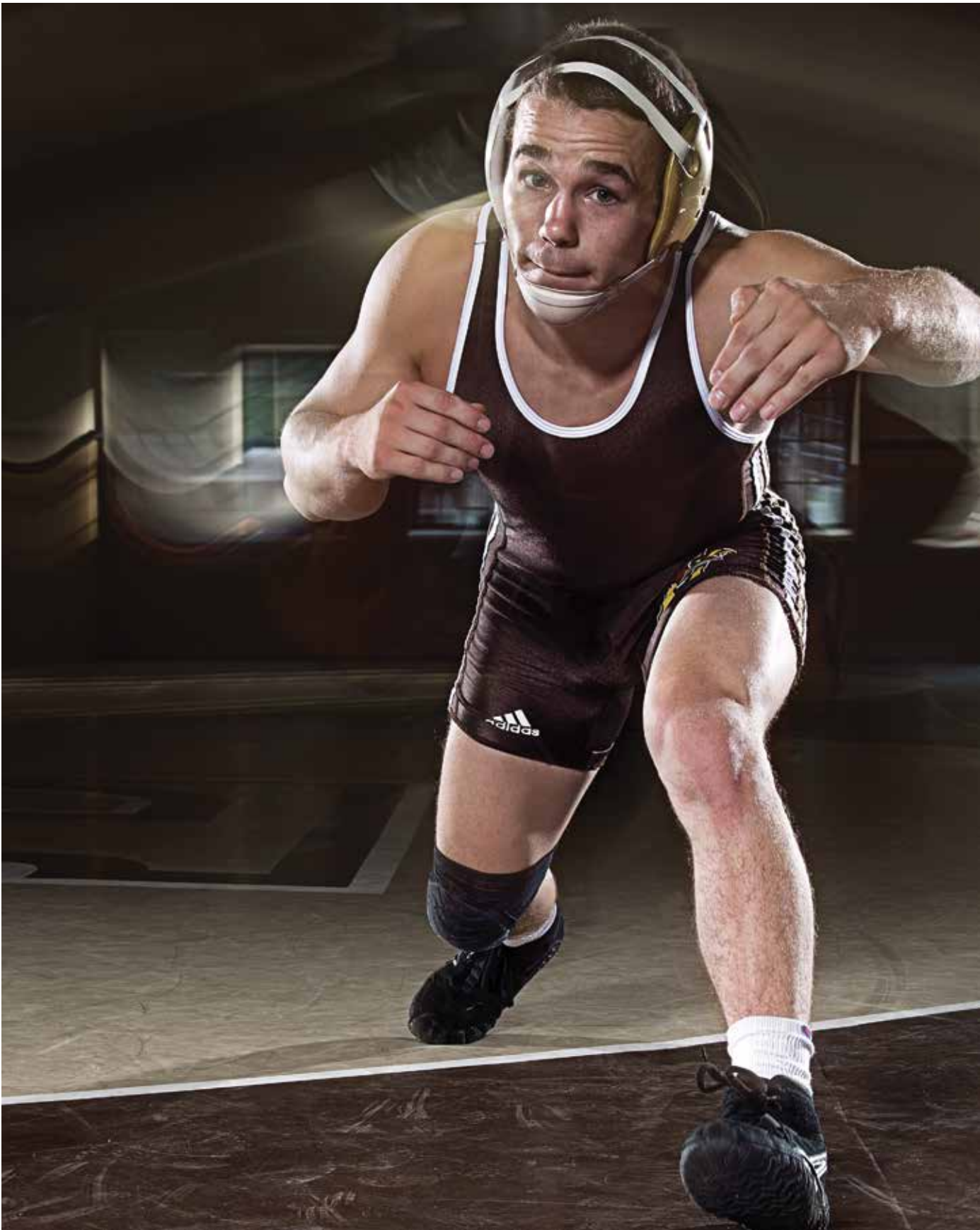
“We have the largest roster we've ever had,” she says. “We have upperclassmen who are staying on the team for four years and really developing as players. At the same time, we're bringing in underclassmen that are challenging the upperclassmen to get even better.”

Van Streepen's success goes far beyond on-court statistics and accolades. She is a Student-Athlete Mentor and a member of the Leadership Legacies program, Martindale Student Association and American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists. She is also employed this semester, and is hoping to stay at Lehigh for a fifth year and work towards her MBA.

“I feel like I've become such a well-rounded person being at Lehigh,” she continues. “The volleyball is at a high level and academics are obviously a huge reason why I came here. Being an engineer from Lehigh gives you huge status points. I'm also able to do all these other things, so it's a really big benefit that we receive as student-athletes here.”

—Steve Lomangino

PROFILE Mason Beckman '15



STEVE BOYLE

Academic All-American Mason Beckman '15 on his goals for the season to come and the unique challenges of wrestling.

MAJOR Supply Chain Management

HOMETOWN Transfer, Pa.

HONORS Wrestling at 133 points last season, Beckman finished with a record of 32-9 and a sixth-place finish at the NCAA Wrestling Championships. He was named both an All-American and an Academic All-American.

HOW I GOT STARTED IN WRESTLING “I was born in to the sport of wrestling in a lot of ways. My father was a coach and my older brother started wrestling at age 6 or 7, so it was always in the cards. I would tag along to practice with those two when I was only 4 or 5 years old and learn a little bit each night, and before long, I was doing full practices and starting a wrestling career of my own.”

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT WRESTLING “It's a sport that pushes a person and reveals who they truly are. Above all, I think I love the fact that wrestling is a sport that anyone can succeed in if they are willing to learn and adapt. There is no required body type or level of athleticism necessary to win at the highest level, which is extremely unique for a collegiate sport.”

WHAT I DON'T LOVE ABOUT IT “There's nothing I would say that I absolutely hate about our sport, but it does take a toll on your mind and body after a while. Waking up sore all the time can get old!”

BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT “Being named an Academic All-American last season was easily the biggest achievement of my career. As a program, we take a lot of pride in being student-athletes and succeeding in the classroom as well as on the mat and to be able to practice what is preached to us meant a lot to me. None of that would have been possible without my teammates, coaches, and family though. They all pushed me in the right direction and picked me up when I was down. In reality, they are the ones that deserve the majority of the credit.”

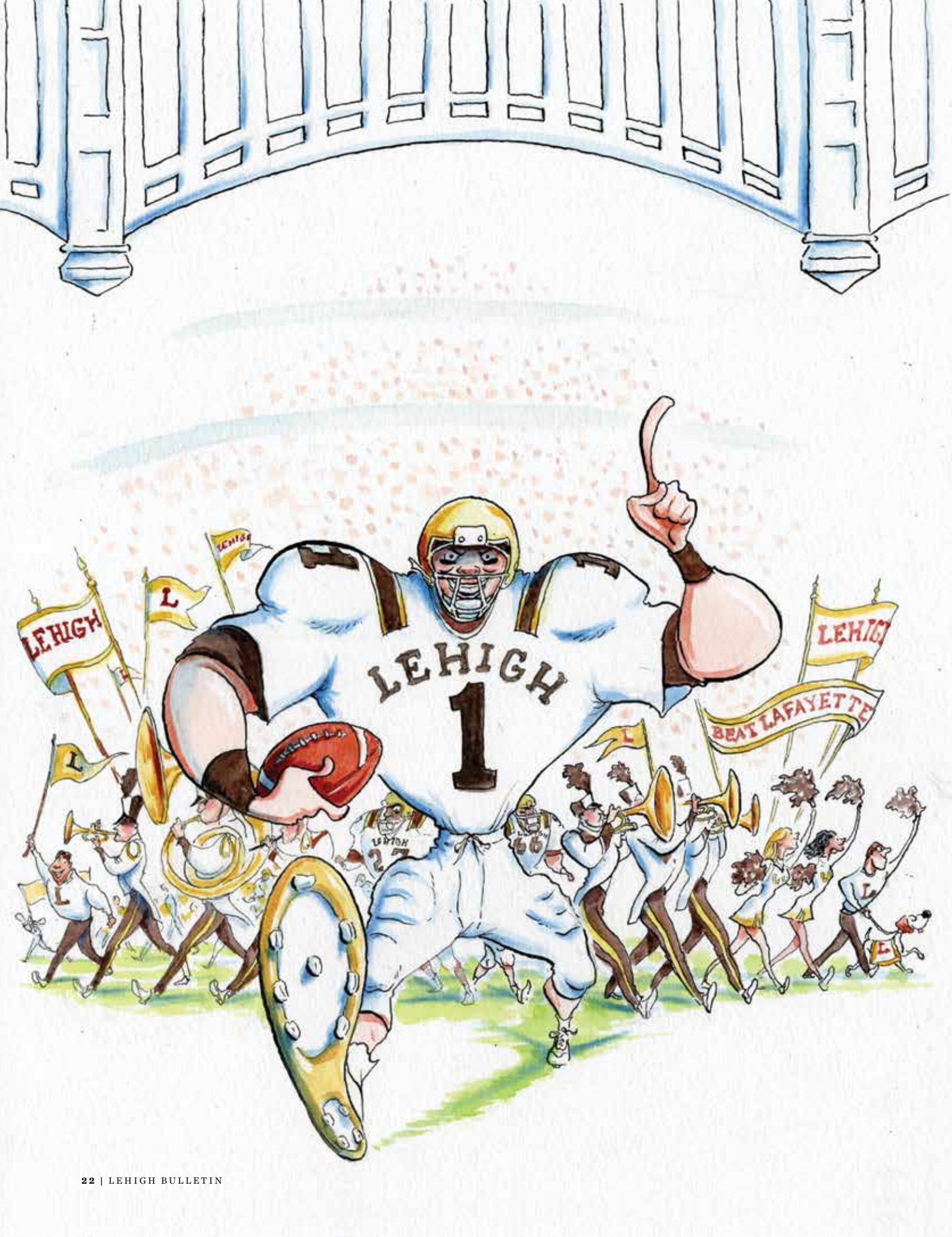
IF I DIDN'T WRESTLE, THE SPORT I WOULD PLAY IS ... “I don't have a very good answer to this question because I have yet to find another sport that I can play. Being 5'4” and an average athlete doesn't lend itself well to many sports, but if I had to choose I would say ice hockey.”

MY FAVORITE ATHLETE IN ANOTHER SPORT IS “Andrew McCutcheon of the Pittsburgh Pirates or Lionel Messi of FC Barcelona.”

MY HEROES ARE “My brother, my father, any man or woman who has served and fought to defend our country, and the Lord.”

MY LEADERSHIP STYLE IS... “I try to be as positive as possible and to always push my teammates in the right direction when they seem to need it. I make myself as available as possible and try to set a good example. I would be remiss if I didn't mention Nathaniel Brown, who is the other captain of our team. He is a phenomenal leader and teammate who I learn from on a daily basis.”

GOALS THIS SEASON “To get better every day and push my teammates to be the best team that we can be. If we continue to improve the way that we have been all summer, we can be a Top 8 team in the country and have a number of people who can and should be All-Americans and compete to win a national title, myself included.”



The RIVALRY of Rivalries

By Tim Hyland
Illustration by Michael Witte
Photography from University
Special Collections, Lehigh
Athletics and Ryan Hulvat

Yes, it's been played more than any other rivalry game in the country. But to hear Lehigh football alums tell it, that's not the only reason why *'The Rivalry'* stands out above the rest.

There are bigger sports than college football, and there are more popular sports than college football. There are sports that claim more fans and a more global audience. There are sports that make more money than college football, and sports that may be considered more fashionable, especially today.

But at least in one respect, the game of American college football simply has no peer: *Rivalry*.

Yes, rivalry.

Real, honest, meaningful rivalry. This is a sport, after all, that was quite literally born over a grudge match between students at rivals Princeton and Rutgers, and over the course of its 146-year history, it is a sport that has given birth to countless more rivalries—rivalries big and small and bitter and, well, even more bitter. In many ways, this is a sport that was built on rivalry—on the collective embrace of fierce competition against that school next door, or just across the state line, or maybe, for example, just 13 miles up the road.

There's simply no debating it. No American sport can match college football for its respect and celebration of rivalry, and all one must do is look around the nation for evidence. There is plenty.

There is Alabama-Auburn down south, in a series so intense that it can rightly be said to border on the bizarre. There is Ohio State-Michigan out in the Midwest, with the Buckeyes so disdainful of the maize and blue that they refuse to utter the name of "The School Up North" at all. There is USC-UCLA in the battle for Los Angeles, Minnesota-Wisconsin in the battle for Paul Bunyan's Axe, and Oklahoma-Texas each and every year, at the Texas State Fair, with the Cotton Bowl split in two—burnt orange on one side, maroon on the other, and don't you dare cross enemy lines. There is the Apple Cup and the Centennial Cup and more than a couple Governor's Cups. There is the Egg Bowl in Mississippi and the Bucket game in Indiana, the Palmetto State grudge match in South Carolina and, down in Georgia,



a rivalry series so heated they just call it “Clean, Old Fashioned Hate.” There is Amherst-Williams, Harvard-Yale, Grambling-Southern and, of course, the annual football masterpiece that is Army-Navy.

They are great rivalries all. But they are not “The Rivalry.”

They can’t be. Because while there may be “bigger” rivalry games, or games that draw more fans or more television viewers, there is no rivalry game anywhere in this college football nation that has been played more times than the Lehigh-Lafayette rivalry. Not one.

Entering this season, the Mountain Hawks and the Leopards had played out their annual (and occasionally *more* than annual) grudge match 149 times. That’s 29 more times than Harvard has played Yale, 33 more times than Auburn has played Georgia in “The South’s Oldest Rivalry,” 36 more times than Navy has played Army and 39 more times than Ohio State has played Michigan. These 149 meetings have seen thrills on the field, stunning upsets, staggering blowouts and sterling individual performances. They have seen legends made, miracles happen, and winning streaks born and broken. They have seen passion and pageantry in the stands, media hype, a few brawls in the stands and a few more on the field, pranks and banter and maybe a few lines crossed. They have seen marching bands and mascots and, of course, an untold number of goal posts torn down.

What these 149 games have seen, in other words, is the development of one of the greatest traditions—and one of the greatest rivalries—that college sports has ever seen. With its unique and unmatched history, then, it is entirely true to say that The Rivalry stands alone.

“I mean, think about it—you’re talking about *150 games*,” says Mark McGowan ’89, the quarterback who guided Lehigh to a 17-10 win over Lafayette in

THE FIRST TEAM

This is the Lehigh football team that started it all, in 1884. Today the Lehigh-Lafayette rivalry is the most played college football rivalry in the nation.



the last game ever played at Taylor Stadium. “There’s a lot of tradition built into that. A lot of great players, and a lot of great people who have gone on to do great things in their lives. To learn what it means to be part of a team that has such a

great history, it’s really awesome to be part of that. And for a Patriot League player, where 99 percent of the players aren’t going on to play in the NFL, having the opportunity to represent your university in a rivalry like that? That’s the climax of college football right there, just to be part of something like this.”

This year, in honor of the 150th playing of the Lehigh-Lafayette game, the two Lehigh Valley rivals are taking their annual clash on the road—all the way to New York’s Yankee Stadium. There, at 3 p.m. on Nov. 22, the Mountain Hawks and Leopards will take the field and play out the latest chapter in their series in front of more than 40,000 people, not to mention a nationwide television audience.

As they do, they will be given the opportunity to show America precisely what Lehigh and Lafayette alumni have known for nearly a century and a half now: That while Ohio State and

Michigan fans may brag on their annual clash and while Alabama and Auburn fans may do the same, while Harvard and Yale celebrate The Game and while the Long-

RIVARLY REFLECTIONS

“WHEN YOU’RE PLAYING IN A LEHIGH-LAFAYETTE GAME, YOU HAVE TO HAVE A DIFFERENT MINDSET. THE FIRST COUPLE OF TIMES I PLAYED IN IT, I WENT IN THINKING THAT IT WAS LIKE ANY OTHER GAME—THAT ALL OF OUR GAMES WERE EQUALLY ‘BIG GAMES.’ BUT THEN I REALIZED YOU CAN’T DO THAT.”

RENNIE BENN ’86

horns and Sooners hold dear The Red River Rivalry, Lehigh vs. Lafayette is every bit as passionate, every bit as heated and every bit as important—to the players, to the coaches, to the students, and the alumni—as every other rivalry in the nation.

Just ask the guys who have played in it.

“I remember speaking to a reporter one time after the Lehigh-Lafayette game of my senior year, and he asked me, ‘I know this is a big game, but do you get the sense that because you play the same weekend as all of these other rivalries that you sometimes don’t get the credit you deserve?’” recalls Mark Yeager ’81. “And I remember telling him, ‘Look, nobody in this locker room has any delusions of grandeur. Few of us have even thought about pursuing a career in the NFL. But that does not in any way demean what this game means to us. Winning this game is every bit as important to our coaches, our families, the players, the schools and the students as any other rivalry game. It may be less impactful of the national championship picture. But don’t doubt that it’s every bit as important.’”

‘Just a Little More *Electric*’

Talk to enough Lehigh football alums and you’ll eventually collect a treasure trove of great stories about The Rivalry.

One will tell you about how, months after a last-minute loss to the Leopards, his coach opened spring practice not with the typical warm-ups—stretching, or calisthenics—but rather by having his team run the exact same play that failed, with the clock running out, all those months before. Another will recall the immense pressure he and his teammates felt to get a win in the very last Lehigh-Lafayette game ever played at Taylor Stadium—a game played out in almost unbearably cold

temperatures. Another will tell you about the bittersweet victory in his freshman year over a Lafayette team that happened to include his big brother, a senior at the time, who with that stinging defeat saw his football career end in the worst way possible—a loss to hated Lehigh. Still another will talk about the fleeting moment of joy he experienced, down on the field of old Taylor Stadium, when in the midst of the frenzied game day atmosphere he simply stopped, took in the hectic and colorful scene surrounding him, and realized that, yes, he was *truly* part of something special.

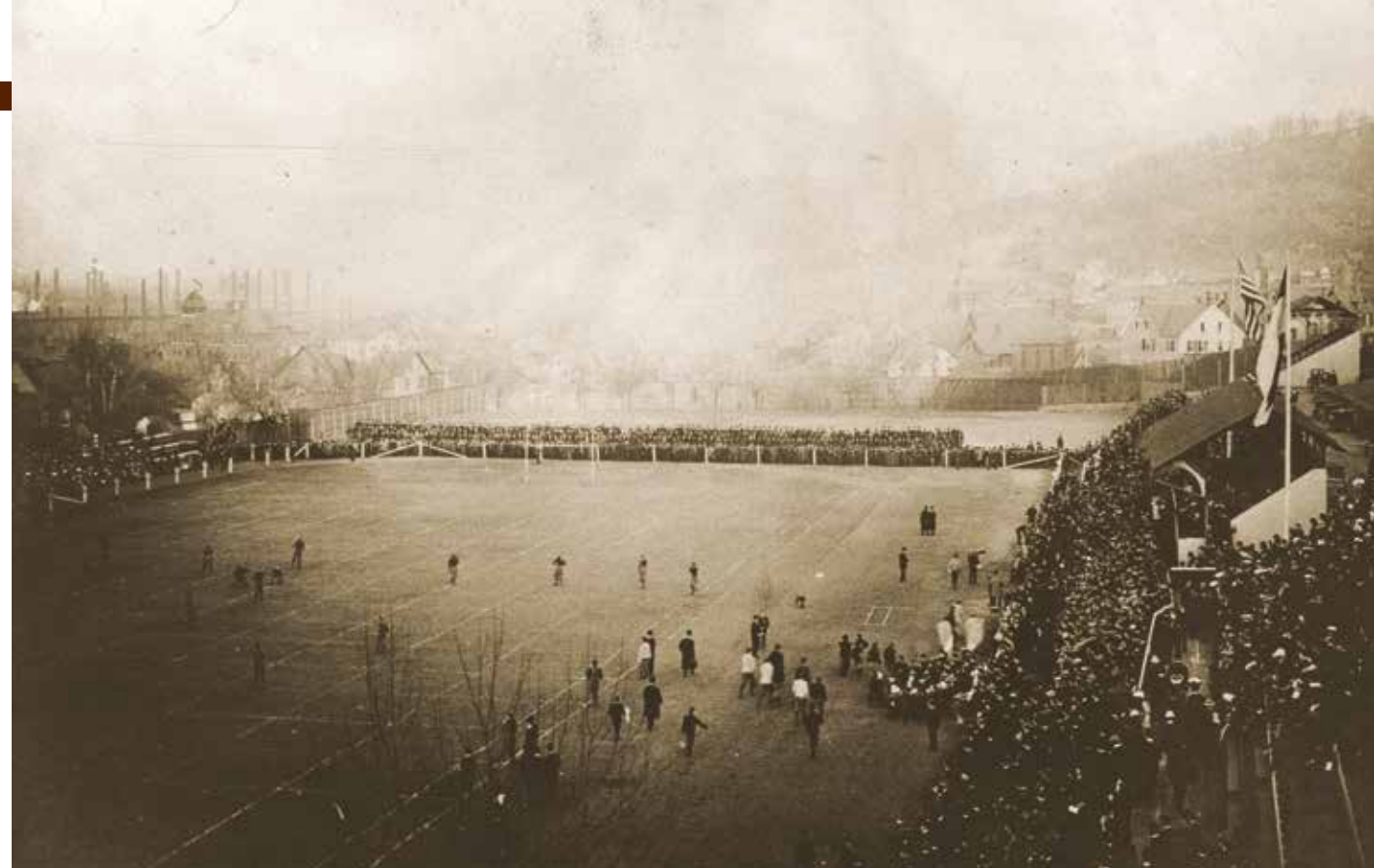
Some recall individual plays of brilliance or heart-breaking moments of defeat. Some remember the first time they got hit by a Leopard—or the first time they hit a Leopard. Some can’t help but laugh in disbelief about traditions of old—of the crazy old days when students on both sides would literally go to war over a piece of the Lehigh-Lafayette goalposts, and when being on the sidelines, with a helmet on, was really the safest place to be. Others still, mostly the guys who were raised here in the Lehigh Valley, will get emotional talking about how they grew up with the Lehigh-Lafayette game, how they started coming to the game with their father or grandfather, and how their playing in the game felt like a certain kind of destiny fulfilled.

The stories run the gamut—triumph, heartbreak, comedy, victory. And yet, there is one theme, and one idea, that ultimately ties all of their stories together.

RIVARLY REFLECTIONS

“WINNING THIS GAME IS EVERY BIT AS IMPORTANT TO OUR COACHES, OUR FAMILIES, THE PLAYERS, THE SCHOOLS AND THE STUDENTS AS ANY OTHER RIVALRY GAME. IT MAY BE LESS IMPACTFUL OF THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PICTURE. BUT DON’T DOUBT THAT IT’S EVERY BIT AS IMPORTANT.”

MARK YEAGER ’81



TEN TO REMEMBER

Lehigh football expert Chuck Burton, author of the **Lehigh Football Nation** blog, ranks the Top 10 Lehigh wins in the history of The Rivalry.



9
10/30
1889

Playing for the mythical “Championship of Pennsylvania,” the first game in the home-and-home series was one of the more thrilling Rivalry matchups. In Bethlehem at old Lehigh Field, with the fans separated from the players only by rope, a Lehigh team powered by Hall of Fame running backs Paul Dashiell and Samuel Warriner fell behind early 10-0. But Lehigh’s innovative offense, the “Lehigh V,” would eventually wear down the Maroon & White. Dashiell and Warriner would orchestrate 16 unanswered points for a thrilling, come-from-behind, 16-10 win.

8
11/18
1961

With the Lambert Cup on the line, a heavily favored Lehigh squad fell behind 14-0 to a spirited Leopard team. In what would be Bill Leckonby’s final game as head football coach of the Brown & White, Lehigh rallied to tie the game at 14. With Lafayette punting the ball away with under a minute to play, quarterback Johnny DeNoia completed his only pass of the day, to Pat Clark at the Lafayette 5-yard line. That set up the game-winner as time expired, ending the game at 17-14.



7
11/20
2010

With Lehigh holding a late 20-10 lead, Lafayette found itself with a first-and-goal from the 2-yard line. But linebackers Mike Groome and Al Pierce stonewalled the Leopards, with Groome turning in two spectacular stops. With Lafayette driving one last time, Pierce stopped Leopard running back Alan Elder short of the sticks, preserving Lehigh’s 20-13 victory.

6
11/20
1999

Lafayette had a chance to become Patriot League champions and FCS Playoff participants if they could simply beat the 3-7 Mountain Hawks for the third straight time in Bethlehem. Against all odds, Lehigh held a 21-14 lead until Lafayette quarterback Rob Curley completed a 34-yard strike to wideout Julian Hayes to force overtime. One touchdown and missed extra point later, all Curley had to do was score a touchdown and extra point to win, but Mountain Hawk linebacker Al Pierce had other ideas, nabbing Curley’s underthrown ball, and causing thrilled Mountain Hawk fans to rush the field in victory, 27-21.



5
11/21
2009

The Mountain Hawks were in the middle of an incredible 23-1 regular season run of games, while Lafayette was struggling, going 4-6 into Bill Russo’s final game as head football coach. Lafayette gave everything they had and scored a late touchdown to cut the game to 14-12. It seemed the Leopards had all the momentum, but their two-point conversion attempt was knocked down by cornerback Jason Pinckney. Through a nail-biting finish, the defense held on, preserving Lehigh’s streak in the Rivalry and helping the Mountain Hawks earn a second-straight berth to the FCS playoffs.

4
11/22
1997

After falling behind 21-0 early—and making Lehigh fans very, very nervous—running back Rabi Abdullah, quarterback Phil Stambaugh and wideout Joe Falzone helped Lehigh outscore Lafayette 43-10 the rest of the way. Stambaugh would go 32 for 49 with 323 yards passing, while Abdullah would amass 143 all-purpose yards and two touchdowns, good enough to earn him MVP honors.



3
11/10
1987

The final college football game played in Taylor Stadium was also one of the coldest days in Rivalry history, turning away many fans who would have otherwise been subjected to minus-17-degree wind chills. Down 10-9 in the fourth quarter, quarterback Mark McGowan engineered a ten-play, 59-yard drive in the freezing cold, taking the ball himself over the goal line to get the game-clinching score, 17-10.

2
11/23
1929

The Rivalry was in real danger of being cancelled, and Lafayette was in the midst of a 10-game winning streak over the Brown & White. It had been five years since Lehigh had even had any sort of lead on the Leopards. But a talented, determined young recruiting class would finally break through for a win, depending on two blocked kicks (one from a substitute center!) to seal the victory, 13-12.



1
11/18
1995

It wasn’t clear that this game would determine the Patriot League title, but as the day turned to dusk and Lehigh rallied from a 30-14 deficit in the 4th quarter to improbably tie the game, suddenly the first overtime Rivalry game was going to determine the championship. In the first period of the second overtime, wideout Brian Klingerman, with the sun setting, made a spectacular one-handed grab of Bob Aylsworth’s pass in the end zone to take the lead. And after Lehigh’s defensive line stuffed Lafayette on 4th-and-1, the Championship was theirs.

That idea is this: No matter when they played in The Rivalry, be it back in the post-war 1940s or the turbulent 1960s, the heady 1980s or the early 2000s, each and every playing of this game has really, really mattered.

All of these games through the years have mattered to the players. To the coaches. To the students and staff, faculty and alumni. To all of them, across the eras, the rivalry has mattered—for the competition, for the bragging rights, for the week-long celebration that surrounds it, for the memories it manufactures. It continues to matter today.

“It’s the entire student body. It’s the faculty and staff. It’s everybody associated with both of those universities really getting into it,” says Rennie Benn ’86. “The players and coaches are one thing. But to get to that level beyond the student body? To get up into the staff and the administration? That’s when you get a sense pretty quickly of how big it is.”

“There was always a lot of hoopla,” says Walt Pijawka ’58. “And let’s face it, Lehigh always had a penchant for partying. This was a great opportunity for a party.”

Lehigh, as even its football alums will tell you, is not a football factory. The game as played here remains in many ways just that—a game. Lehigh football players are expected to be true student-athletes, Lehigh football is not a multimillion-dollar enterprise, as many major college football programs are, and Lehigh fans do not cross the line into fanaticism the way fans of those “big-time” programs might. Except, of course, for the one week each season when they do.

During Spirit Week, South Mountain is a campus transformed—a place abuzz with excitement and anticipation for the Saturday showdown to come. That buzz—

that electricity that makes campus just feel a little bit different than any other time of the year—is something that most every player who has worn the brown and white has experienced. And even when their Spirit Week experience is decades in the past, it’s an experience they still appreciate, and still treasure, even today.

The fact that it mattered so much to everyone else on campus?

Well, in some ways, that made it matter so much more to them, too.

“What I remember most is the buildup to the game,” says Kody Fedorchka ’00. “The campus is just different. You can start to feel it when that week hits. It’s just not the same. You see guys walking around on campus and they know you play football, and they’ll make comments to you. You’ve got the band playing in the classrooms, everyone gearing up for it. You know it’s a big-time game.”

“Look, I’ve done the Harvard-Yale game twice,” says John Shigo ’84, a former Lehigh linebacker who now works as a college football referee. “Lehigh-Lafayette is very similar in regards to the buildup. You’ve got the amount of people there, the tailgating, the flag-waving. It gets hyped on the television and through the media. You just know it’s a different kind of game. It’s just a little bit more electric.”

‘A Different Mindset’

And then, of course, there is the game day itself.

For the rest of the campus community, there are the tailgates and the pregame rituals, the banter and the reunions. But for the guys who actually play the game? Well, mostly, there are the nerves. And the anxiety. And perhaps most of all, that



enormous weight of responsibility—responsibility to their friends and classmates and teammates to bring back a win, to give Lehigh another year’s worth of bragging rights, to write another winning chapter in the proud history of a great football program that has been blessed with a truly great rivalry.

“Coming into Lehigh, one of the first things the older guys tell you is, ‘You don’t lose to Lafayette—in *anything*,’” adds former tailback Keith Sherman ’14. “Hearing that message from those guys, you just know right away that it really means something. ... You get that feeling that it’s about much more than just what’s happening on the field.”

To run onto the field for a Lehigh-Lafayette game, these former players say, is an experience unlike any other they ever had in football. It’s thrilling, overwhelming, humbling. And in truth, they say, it’s actually something that takes some getting used to.

Freshmen, most of the time, just aren’t ready for it. They can’t be.

“When you are playing in a Lehigh-Lafayette game, you have to have a different mindset,” says Benn. “The first couple of times I played in it, I went in thinking that it was like any other game—that all of our games were equally ‘big’ games. But then I realized you can’t do that. By my junior and senior years, I understood that you needed to be really prepared mentally for the game. There is so much emotion in it.”

“It’s just phenomenal,” adds former linebacker Mike Yadush ’93. “I think the older guys tried to prepare us for it, but you really don’t get it until you experience it.”

Which raises a question. What does it mean, really, to “get it”?

It means racing down the field, as a true freshman, making a tackle on the opening kick and hearing a roar that you’ve never heard before. It means playing your heart out for the seniors, because after all they gave to the program, the one thing they deserve, more than anything else in the world, is to go out with a win over Lafayette. It means consoling those seniors when the Leopards win the day, it means never forgetting just how bad it felt to lose, and it means promising your teammates that *next year* won’t be another failure. It means understanding that most every single play of most every single playing of this game will never be forgotten, and it means being wise enough, even in the heat of battle, to take a breath, look around and appreciate what a wonderful thing this rivalry is—and how fortunate you are to have played in it.

Because while some may say it’s just a football game, it’s really so much more than that.

It’s an event.

It’s a celebration.

It’s The Rivalry.

And there really isn’t another one like it.

“I always tell this story,” says Yadush. “I had a good buddy who played at Penn State, and I was at one of his Penn State games against Notre Dame. This was back in the early ’90s and it was a big, big deal. I was down on the field, and there were 85,000 people in that stadium, and it was so impressive. But then, as I was looking around, I remember thinking to myself, ‘You know, this is great. But it *still* isn’t Lehigh-Lafayette.’” **L**

RIVARLY REFLECTIONS

“YOU’VE GOT THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE THERE, THE TAILGATING, THE FLAG-WAVING. IT GETS HYPED ON THE TELEVISION AND THROUGH THE MEDIA. YOU JUST KNOW IT’S A DIFFERENT KIND OF GAME. IT’S JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE ELECTRIC.”

JOHN SHIGO ’84

MORE RIVALRY REFLECTIONS

To read and hear more memories of the Lehigh-Lafayette game from Lehigh football alums through the generations visit lehigh.edu/bulletin.



HIGH TIMES Michael Smerconish has a new book in *Talk*, a popular radio show on SiriusXM and a Saturday morning show on CNN.

COURTESY CNN

MICHAEL SMERCONISH '84
IS DOING HIS PART—
ON RADIO, ON TELEVISION, AND IN PRINT—
TO CHANGE THE TENOR OF
AMERICAN POLITICAL DISCOURSE.

Michael IN THE MIDDLE

Story by Michael Bradley

The more we say something, the more it becomes easy to say. Since Michael Smerconish has been answering questions about his place in the middle of the political spectrum for quite some time, and how moderation absolutely does not—under any circumstances—make him any less strident, he is quite polished and rehearsed when talking about that subject. What we need here is something to switch the narrative.

So, what was it like writing a novel?

A smile. A lean. Now, we have real engagement. Smerconish is quite familiar with the electoral and legislative arenas. He lives there. Forget his address in Philadelphia's Main Line. Smerconish is immersed in the fray, warding off the criticisms of the right, whose members rail at him for abandoning the Republican Party for what they consider the milquetoast of independence, and sparring with the left and its refusal to sanctify anyone who dares embrace even part of the Other Side.

Smerconish knows the middle. It's his world. So, discussing the issues—and more specifically his approach to them—brings a practiced response. It's not robotic, mind you, just well rehearsed. You would expect the same from a physician asked to discuss a procedure he has performed hundreds of times. Or from a musician fielding a request to play a timeworn chestnut.

But writing fiction? Now, that's outside of Smerconish's established, comfortable boundaries. And it clearly excites him. In May, his first novel, *Talk*, hit the stores and online outlets, and though it can be considered as a literary extension of his brand, it was still new ground and therefore exciting for him.

"I am so proud of this book," Smerconish says. "It was the hardest thing that I have written."

These are high times for Smerconish, whose new book is the sixth he has written (the other five were nonfiction), and whose radio show on SiriusXM attracts a big audience for the satellite broadcaster. In March, he began a one-hour Saturday morning show on CNN, *Smerconish*, that finally provides his own television platform and even led to a one-week tryout for the CNN spot Piers Morgan vacated. He continues to write a Sunday column for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. And this summer, he was approached about turning the book, *Talk*, into a TV series. Smerconish and his wife, Lavinia, have four kids in whose lives they are quite entwined. Yet, he still has time to enjoy a cigar at the end of every day, although it's a wonder he doesn't fall asleep while smoking it. This is a busy man.

"When he gets really crazy, he starts looking at things in half-day segments, instead of looking at next month," says his executive producer, TC Scornavacchi. "He'll plan things over a couple days when he can, but mostly he has to take little steps."

Busy is good when you are 52 years old and trying to squeeze as much from life as you can. And no one can accuse Smerconish of not trying to wring everything possible from his. He has cultivated a professional persona that allows him to perform on several different media platforms, and each year seems to bring new and more impressive success.

Talk radio is his primary outlet—at least for now. Fifteen years ago, he was working two hours a day on the air in Philadelphia. Today on SiriusXM, he addresses a good chunk of the company's 26 million paying customers on the POTUS (Politics of the United States) channel and is quickly becoming one of the nation's most influential commentators. The main reason is that Smerconish refuses to conform to the right-wing talk radio stereotype that prevails on many stations. And he certainly won't bow to the left, either. Only recently has that come to define him in a positive manner.

"Talk radio has not fulfilled its potential, because it is filled with a generation of Rush Lim-

baugh wanna-bes, who think it's about monologue, not dialogue," says Rhode Island-based media consultant Holland Cooke. "Smerconish is refreshing. And you can have him on with kids in the car."

Smerconish's satellite radio presence is impressive, but it doesn't afford him the same kind of national exposure as television. His CNN show is an opportunity for him to craft his own TV product, instead of conforming to the strictures of someone else's world, as he did while filling in for Bill O'Reilly, Chris Matthews and Joe Scarborough. Smerconish had been something of a double agent, able to work at both right-leaning Fox News and lefty MSN-

BC without having war declared upon him by either extreme of the political spectrum. There were days when he would do a show at Fox and take a short walk to Rockefeller Center to appear later on MSNBC. Very few people could do that—and it has nothing to do with the energy needed to keep up the schedule.

"I was able to be the Switzerland of the media world for a while, and I would joke at the time that I didn't know if I was going to get shot in the back or shot in the chest as I would traverse those two or three blocks," he says.

Smerconish insists that he is not Stan Powers, the protagonist of *Talk*.

"But I've lived a lot of what Stan Powers experiences," he says.

Since first-time novelists are always exhorted to "write what they know," it made perfect sense that Smerconish's debut would bring the reader into the dual worlds of politics and talk radio. Not that he would have been out of bounds covering the law, since he spent a decade as a litigator and provided legal commentary to CNN, before his radio career and tenure as America's guest host on Fox and MSNBC. Powers is an FM disc jockey who switches formats and gains national popularity by surrendering to his baser instincts and becoming ever more extreme. He impacts elections with his relentless attacks on candidates he doesn't favor and finally faces a personal crisis when he has an opportunity to take down the Democratic

contender in the presidential election.

It took Smerconish four years to write *Talk*, largely because carving out enough time to build the momentum necessary to complete substantial sections was not easy. "It was really a struggle," he says. Smerconish wasn't aiming to craft a bit of literature that will become part of English classes' syllabi for years to come. He sees himself standing at the confluence of Dan Jenkins' *Semi-Tough* and Joe Klein's *Primary Colors*. Given the success of those two authors, that's a good place to hang out. He has accomplished his goal with *Talk*. It is an engaging read with a brisk plot and interesting characters. And it is funny.

"I want people to laugh out loud, and I want them to say, 'You know, he's right. This really is out of control,'" Smerconish says. "[The book] has a real serious message on the [political] climate, which dovetails on everything else ... the CNN show, what I do on SiriusXM. It's all consistent."

That consistency is the important thing for Smerconish now. After more than a decade of trying to have all aspects of his career flowing in the same direction, he has finally achieved that goal. It began with the move to SiriusXM from a syndicated, Philadelphia-based "terrestrial" radio model. That freed him from a talk-radio world that Cooke calls a "punchline" and "a caricature personified"—a landscape dominated by shrill voices that mandate full audience fealty. Smerconish was heard on about 80 stations nationally, most of which were predominantly right wing in nature.

"[Moving to satellite] was a sea change to a different demographic," says Smerconish, who made a well-publicized break with the party in 2010, two years after supporting Barack Obama in the '08 election. "[Listeners] are paying for it, so they have to be of a certain income level, and they're educated. And at least those I'm dealing with, they respond to non-doctrinaire dialogue."

Smerconish is the rare talk-radio host who doesn't mind give-and-take with his audience. He won't allow listeners to hijack a show segment with a diatribe, but he will suffer critics and makes an effort to maintain a civilized tone, even with those who disagree vehemently with him. This reasoned approach, while not popular with the scorched-earth crowd, allows Smerconish to attract a collection of A-list guests. In 2009, he even broadcast live from the White House. And when Republican Wisconsin Rep-



COURTESY CNN

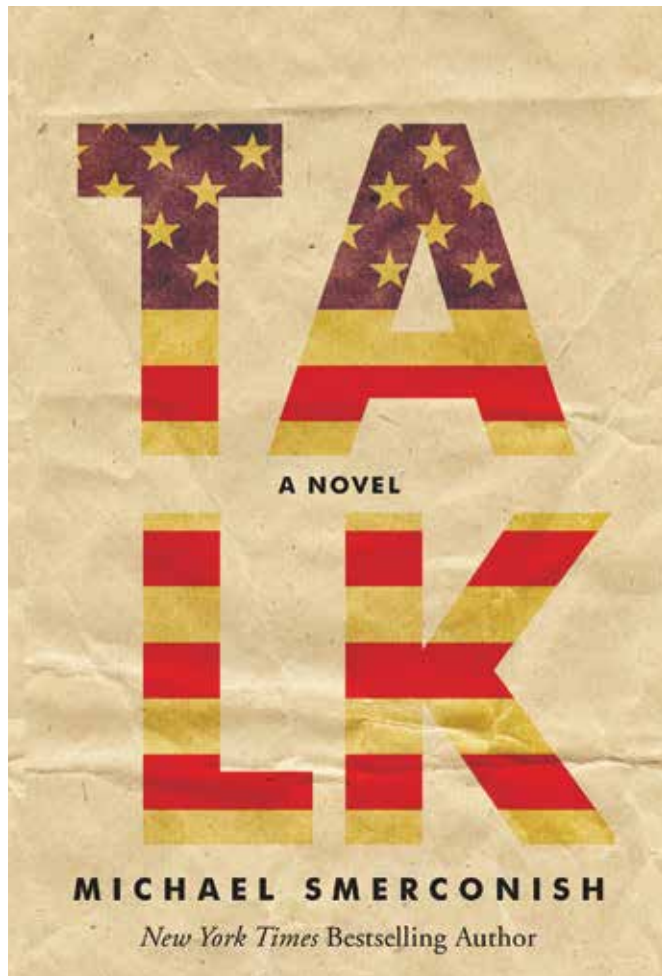
NATIONAL EXPOSURE

Smerconish's one-hour CNN show on Saturday mornings allows him to craft his own TV product.

resentative Paul Ryan came to Philadelphia's Union League in August to promote his book, Smerconish hosted the event and gave Ryan the room to discuss his point of view. When he interviews people, he does so to advance the discussion, not to pillory. Smerconish is known as fair, and when he doesn't know something, he won't bluster. He'll try to find an answer. His show has a big tent feel to it, something that he believes more accurately represents America, even if the edges of the spectrum make the most noise.

"People are allowed to have opinions on his show and can believe one way or the other," says David Goreb, the vice president and general manager of talk programming at SiriusXM. "They don't have to beat up on the president or follow the pack."

"But anyone who describes Michael as wishy-washy doesn't know Michael. Michael, if



you look at his core, decided to be honest.”

Smerconish can be vehement when he wants to be. Take his support for the widow of slain Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner and his strenuous opposition to any lessening of the sentence handed down to Faulkner’s convicted killer, Mumia Abu-Jamal. In March, one of his *Philadelphia Inquirer* columns called for an end of the SAT and used his own troubles with the test and subsequent success at Lehigh and the University of Pennsylvania Law School as evidence that the test is not an accurate indicator of a student’s future success. “Somehow, [a college] application has got to enable someone, anyone, to say, ‘I’ve got a lot more things going on here than that B or B-minus that you may be looking at,’” he says.

Smerconish had a chance to check out today’s college world when he returned to Lehigh in March to address journalism students in the Journalism 122 course, which covers media, law and ethics. At first, he thought he would be presiding over the “Jokes” class, a journalism primer that carried the same course number while he was at Lehigh and which was taught by beloved department chairman Joe McFadden. “McFadden was this classic Lehigh personali-

ty,” Smerconish says. “No matter what you were majoring in, you wanted to make sure at some point at Lehigh you registered for ‘Jokes.’”

The invitation to speak allowed Smerconish to talk about polarization in the media and the political arena. He spoke about the reasons for the current climate and how the media has mirrored the nation’s capital by creating a divergence that allows for less and less rational discussion. Smerconish was cheered by the fact that the students asked a lot of questions and seemed engaged.

“The reason I’m so passionate about that subject is that I think the industries in which I work are the ones that are responsible, specifically talk radio and cable television news,” he says. “In the span of 45 minutes, I tried to explain to them the way in which those businesses have changed, and how they changed at the exact same time that Washington has become more polarized.”

Smerconish’s CNN show provides a televised version of his radio program and continues his quest to civilize the discussion on issues. He’s happy to be on what he considers to be neutral ground, after splitting his TV time between the left and right camps. CNN is happy to let him do it. Speaking in early February, when Smerconish’s new show was announced, network president Jeff Zucker said, “At a time when the cable news landscape has become increasingly polarized, his independence and passion for reasoned dialogue makes him the perfect fit for CNN.” About a month after his CNN show was announced, Smerconish learned he would get a week’s “tryout” in the evening slot vacated recently by Piers Morgan.

In other words, there is no denying Smerconish’s growing influence and success. He has grabbed the middle tightly and is using every medium at his disposal to draw Americans away from the fringes and into the mainstream, where he believes progress can be made. Partisanship has been confused with passion, and that’s anathema to him. Smerconish moves forward confident in the fact that he is true to himself—and he honestly believes he can find some answers that will lead to an end of the shrill climate that prevails.

“The opinions that I offer, the right ones and the wrong ones, they’re all heartfelt,” he says. “I’ve never tailored my speech to where I think an audience exists. It’s more a function of, ‘This is what I believe, and by the way, I think many people feel the same way I do.’” **L**

‘TALK’

Smerconish’s first novel hit stores and online markets in May. ‘I am so proud of this book,’ he says. ‘It was the hardest thing that I have written.’



STEPHANIE VETO

Lehigh Takes Manhattan

Rivalry Weekend will be the biggest gathering ever of Lehigh alumni.

LEHIGH HAS A REPUTATION AS A PARTY SCHOOL. I know—that’s not always a positive thing. But as the pieces fall into place for the 150th Lehigh-Lafayette Rivalry Game this November, I can’t help but think that Lehigh people really know how to have a good time.

You have heard already about the insider’s events, performances, and receptions in the works. As of this writing, some of the events are already sold out, and we expect more will be at capacity well before game day. Right now, we’re hashing out a lot of the details, from which signature cocktail will be served at the Welcome Reception to the exact design (spoiler alert!) of the Tally-Ho replica bar at Friday’s Brown and White Night event. And I’m still impressed that Earth, Wind and Fire will be stopping by. (For the record, I DO think they should change the lyrics in their hit song “September” to “Do You Remember the 21st of November?” just for that night. Because it just couldn’t be more perfect. Anyone with me?)

But here is what I am most excited about: Rivalry Weekend in New York City will be THE biggest gathering of Lehigh alumni. Ever.

Think about it: We host about 500 each year for Homecoming and welcome back 1,000 during Reunion. Almost 10,000 join us for Commencement, and we average the same for a typical home Lehigh-Lafayette Game (a turnout that puts us at the pinnacle of

the Patriot League in terms of attendance). This fall, in New York City, we will have more than 28,000 Lehigh alumni and friends, all in one place at one time.

Lehigh is going to be everywhere, in one of the largest cities in the world. We will see each other in restaurants, on the street, in hotel lobbies. In the city and beyond, we’ll be at telecasts and tailgates, tweeting, texting, tagging, posting, and checking in. Friday, I hope to see bed races in Times Square, and the Marching 97 marching down Wall Street. Come Saturday morning, I expect to hear a chorus of “Old Silver Goblet” being sung on the D train to the Bronx. And come Saturday night, I wouldn’t be surprised to see the Empire State Building lit up in glorious brown and white. (More spoilers? You’ll have to wait and see...)

Lehigh is going to take Manhattan. Whether you can be in the city, or connecting virtually with your Lehigh family somewhere else around the world, YOU can be part of it. It’s once in a lifetime.

It’s going to be legendary.

Sincerely,
Robert W. Wolfenden, *Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations*

EXPERIENCE ‘THE RIVALRY’ IN NEW YORK CITY!

ALL WEEKEND

Welcome Center

New York Marriott Marquis, Times Square, 1535 Broadway
Volunteers and staff will be on hand at Lehigh's event headquarters to welcome you to New York City. Stop by during Rivalry Weekend to get program updates, confirm your schedule, get local information, and more.

Tell Your Lehigh Story: An Alumni Oral History Project

New York Marriott Marquis, Times Square, By appointment
We all have great Lehigh stories—passionate, quirky, or touching memories of our experiences. Help make Lehigh history (literally!) by participating in a casual “StoryCorps”-style interview with a volunteer or student. Interviews, with your permission, will be preserved for future generations in the Lehigh archives.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

RALLY FOR THE RIVALRY

New York Marriott Marquis, Broadway Lounge
1535 Broadway, 5–8 p.m., \$25

Kick off the weekend with friends and frenemies from “that other school” at the crossroads of the world, Times Square. Hosted by the Alumni Club of New York and the Lafayette College New York City Alumni Chapter.

BALANCE Banquet

New York Marriott Marquis, Manhattan Ballroom
1535 Broadway, 7–10 p.m., By Invitation Only
The Lehigh University Black and Latino Alumni Network for Community and Equity (BALANCE) presents its 2014 ALUMNI BANQUET.

The Martindale Society Annual Meeting

By Invitation Only
The Martindale Society invites friends and former students of Professor Rich Aronson to join us at our Annual Meeting in New York City for an evening of celebrations honoring his 50th anniversary at Lehigh.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Leadership Dialog: LU at the UN—An Insider’s Look

Church Center for the United Nations
ONE UN—A Millenium Hotel, One United Nations Plaza
8:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. \$25 SOLD OUT

Hear a briefing by Ahmed Kamal, the former Ambassador and Permanent Representative from Pakistan to the United Nations, and learn about experiences of Lehigh students who serve at the nearby headquarters.

Panel Discussion: Creating Investor Value

Convene, 730 Third Avenue, 10 a.m.–Noon, \$25
Join Joe Perella '64, co-founder and partner of Perella Weinberg Partners, and Barry Rosenstein '81, founder and managing partner of JANA Partners, LLC for a panel discussion moderated by Bloomberg Television anchor and managing editor Stephanie Ruhle '97. Sponsored by the Lehigh Wall Street Council.

Leadership Dialog with Lehigh University College of Education: Schools—Are We Asking Too Much or Too Little?

Apella, event space at Alexandria Center
450 East 29th Street, 2nd Floor, 10 a.m.–Noon, \$25
Brook Sawyer, assistant professor of teaching, learning, and technology, and Arnold Spokane, professor and program director of counseling psychology, will engage the audience in an interactive discussion about the future of education.

Walking Tour: America’s Passeggiata: Exploring the High Line

10 a.m.–12:30 p.m., \$25 SOLD OUT
Italians have long enjoyed the custom of the passeggiata, or evening stroll. New York’s High Line offers the American version of that experience—a place where people stroll with their families and friends, pause for a view or a chat, or just relax.

Performance Workshop: From the Page to the Stage

E&E Grill House Restaurant and Bar, 233 W 49th Street
Noon–3 p.m., \$25
Join Department of Theatre students and faculty for theater presentations and discussions at Eric Perlmutter '92’s award-winning restaurant.

Leadership Dialog: The Need for Speed

Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum
Pier 86, W 46th Street and 12th Ave., 1–4 p.m., \$25
Take a look at the more daring side of engineering against the backdrop of the fascinating Intrepid Museum with two of Lehigh’s top experts, Professors Joachim Grenestedt and Terry Hart '68, a former NASA astronaut.

Walking Tour: Exploring Greenwich Village

1:30 –3:30 p.m., \$25 SOLD OUT
Join Lehigh Professor Roger Simon, professor of history and an urban and social historian who focuses on the impact of industrialization and the urbanization process, for an exploration of Greenwich Village.

Broaden your mind, expand your network, and see New York City in a whole new way during Rivalry Weekend, as Lehigh offers a host of compelling events designed just for alumni and friends. Explore the city with an insider’s walking tour, immerse yourself in culture, and engage in compelling dialog around some of the day’s most intriguing topics alongside Lehigh experts. From finance and business, to the arts, education, engineering, and more, Rivalry Weekend gives you an exceptional opportunity to share in the very best of Lehigh as you renew and grow your Lehigh friendships and connections. Please join us! **REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 10! alum.lu/150weekend**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

GAME DAY

Yankee Stadium
Kickoff 3:30 p.m., Pregame at the Stadium. SOLD OUT
The Lehigh-Lafayette Game will be a unique experience. Yankee Stadium will be open two hours prior to kickoff for fans to enter, enjoy the variety of food and drink options available, and tour the stadium. Watch the teams warm up for the game, and enjoy video content from the many screens located throughout the stadium. All ticket locations allow for a 360-degree walk around the public concourses with a valid game ticket.

ACTIVITIES AROUND THE CITY

PRE-GAME RECEPTION sponsored by the Lehigh Club of Central New Jersey

Legends Sports Bar
6 West 33rd Street
10 a.m.–2 p.m., \$30
Note: Legends Sports Bar is a separate venue from Legends at Yankee Stadium.

NATIONAL TELECASTS

Lehigh is hosting more than 75 telecasts around the world. Find one near you at mylehigh.lehigh.edu/telecasts.

NEW YORK CITY TELECASTS

Legends Sports Bar
6 West 33rd Street, 3–8 p.m.
Note: Legends Sports Bar is a separate venue from Legends at Yankee Stadium.

Turtle Bay Grill & Lounge
987 Second Avenue
(between 52nd & 53rd), 3–8 p.m.

Dorrian’s
1616 Second Avenue (SE Corner
of 84th St. & 2nd Ave.), 3–8 p.m.

To register and for weekend details, including where to stay, visit alum.lu/150weekend. All event registration must be conducted online. Questions may be directed to rivalryevents@lehigh.edu or 844-LU150TH.



By Joe Sterrett '76, Murray H. Goodman Dean of Athletics

What We Stand For

The Enduring Value of Lehigh's Vision for College Athletics

LIKE THE REST OF YOU, I am counting down the days to what promises to be one of the most exciting events in Lehigh athletics history—the 150th playing of the Lehigh-Lafayette rivalry game, next month, in New York's iconic Yankee Stadium. Our celebration of The Rivalry will offer Lehigh the opportunity to show the rest of the nation what we stand for when it comes to college athletics. Our message, I believe, is one that may resonate more strongly today than ever before.

As many of you know, these are challenging times in the world of college sports. At the base of a highly public discourse is the question of whether college sports are a commercial or educational endeavor. An indication of the emerging sentiments may be discerned by looking at the circumstances that have prompted litigation in order to answer that question. A lawsuit involving Northwestern football athletes seeking the opportunity to unionize has begun to address the issue of whether football athletes should be characterized as “employees” or “students.” Another lawsuit is focused on the rights of athletes to share in revenues from merchandise sales that use athlete “likenesses.” And a number of lawsuits have been filed regarding the financial obligations associated with changes in conference membership.

Dramatic changes have been sought and won by selected NCAA member institutions to the governance authority and to the process for determining NCAA rules. The desired outcomes are explicit—to provide “more” benefits for athletes, perhaps as a means of mitigating their growing expectations relative to sharing in the revenues generated by the sports enterprise. As this happens, the gap is widening between athletes who believe they are working for colleges by playing sports and athletes who truly are students at the colleges for which they play.

The consequences of these trends in sentiments, motivations and litigations threaten the structure and viability of the NCAA as the governing structure for college sports. Already, many regionally based and historically traditional associations and competitive rivalries have been forsaken in the effort by multiple conferences to include new members with specific media markets in their conference footprint.

The quest for revenue has also impacted the search for and acquisition of talent. The salaries for head coaches in high-profile sports have escalated beyond any educationally based comparator. The challenge of recruiting talented athletes has led to earlier and earlier scholarship offers from programs, and subsequently, a not-so-unpredictable increase in transfer rates. Among the most referenced attractions expressed by highly recruited athletes are the opportunity to play right away, the opportunity to develop the sport skills needed for “the next level,” and the opportunity to utilize extraordinary athletic and training facilities. “Success” for these athletes is too often defined by national visibility and recognition, athletic skill development and professional draft rankings.

These are also challenging times in higher education. Public



RYAN HULIAT

scrutiny of the cost and price of college is no longer balanced by an acknowledgment of the statistically valid financial benefit of a college degree as measured by earnings differentials between those who have completed a degree and those who have not. Furthermore, government involvement in higher education is less about investing in funding subsidies or research efforts, and more about the growing obligations for detailed reporting of educational outcomes, expenditures and student behaviors.

We need to be cognizant of what these trends may be telling us about college sports. And we need to be thoughtful about how we choose to guide our programs and the perceptions generated by our priorities.

My view is that clarity around our mission at Lehigh, and the outcomes we aim to achieve for our student-athletes, has never been more important. Our mission of advancing learning and fostering personal development and leadership differentiates our athletics program and experience from those in which revenues, entertainment and visibility are the drivers of behavior, if not also the primary goals. We are good at educating through sports, and at developing young people into balanced and grounded contributors and leaders. We are working to be even more effective at that mission. We want to lead others who view in a similar way the mission of their athletics programs.

Outcomes matter, of course. We can't be all about intentions and process. So we have to ensure our student-athletes graduate, and we have to ensure our teams win. Those outcomes foster interest in what we are doing and how we are getting it done. That interest translates into stronger students, stronger athletes, and aspirations that are ever more purposeful and ambitious.

All of that adds value—to the experience of our student-athletes, of course, but also to the way the university views athletics as part of the learning and developmental experience.

In today's world, the way we approach our athletics program, and the way we measure success, is our statement of distinctiveness. It is a statement of which we can all be proud. **L**

A Message from the Office of Gift Planning

Bob Kiley loved the time he spent volunteering in a soup kitchen in New York City in the early 1980s. But after a while, he decided to shift his philanthropic focus to a younger generation.

Since then, Bob has done just that, working with outlets such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Colonial Williamsburg, and most recently, Lehigh. “I want to direct my efforts and contributions toward helping young people become good and beneficial citizens for our world,” he says. To benefit Lehigh students, Bob and his wife Lynne set up a charitable remainder trust to provide scholarship money for students in the College of Business and Economics, where Bob received a bachelor of science degree in marketing.

In addition to starting the trust, Bob has supported Lehigh with years of service as a member of the Asa Packer Society, Tower Society, as a class volunteer and as author of the Class of 1955's section of the Lehigh Alumni Bulletin's “Class Notes.” One of the things Bob loves most about Lehigh is the tremendous support from alumni. “It just makes you feel so good about the school,” he says. “Lehigh is simply great.”

LEHIGH IN OUR LIVES

LYNNE AND BOB KILEY '55

“I want to direct my efforts and contributions toward helping young people become good and beneficial citizens for our world.”

—Bob Kiley '55

For more information on how you can make an impact through a planned gift to Lehigh, contact Lorraine Wiedorn '84G '13P '17P, assistant vice president for Gift Planning, at (610) 758-4874.



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Lehigh spirit goes beyond the sports fields. Students at the Club Fair and Community Expo get to explore their passions.
Photo by Christa Neu

