

Multimedia Reporting »

On Campus, On Assignment for ABC News



The ABC News On Campus Northeastern bureau at Syracuse University includes reporters Torie Wells '10 (foreground), Meghan Lisson '09 (left background), and Sabina Kuriakose '09. Bureau chief Jason Tarr '09 and reporter Matthew Gelb '09 round out the SU team.

EACH WEEKDAY MORNING, JASON TARR '09 SETS OUT TO PROVIDE a window into college life for audiences across America. He starts with a conference call to ABC News executives in New York and four other newsroom bureau chiefs around the country. After pitching story ideas, Tarr assigns each green-lighted story to one of his four reporters via e-mail. As the chief of ABC's first Northeastern bureau at Syracuse University, Tarr collaborates with ABC directors and his reporters to fill the network's college news web site. "Every morning's been a learning experience," Tarr says. "It's a chance to hear what they think of your pitch; it's a chance to hear what they're working on in New York."

The S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications was one of five journalism schools chosen nationwide by ABC in fall 2007 to produce stories for ABC News On Campus (abcnews.go.com/oncampus). "It's a real nice vote of confidence for the Newhouse School," says Randy Wenner, a bureau faculty advisor. The web site, launched in September, features a mix of video package stories, text stories, and photo slide shows covering politics, sports, entertainment, science, and other newsworthy events. ABC expects the Newhouse students to report on news that affects college students and deliver it to a national audience. "We're really having the opportunity to do work on the professional network level," Tarr says.

ABC director Barbara Garcia says the network wanted to make more news available to college students and relies on bureau reporters to accomplish that goal. "They've become incredibly reliable at a time when news and information is in demand," she says. The bureau staff has reported on tips from SU experts on saving money when studying abroad; Remembrance Week activities that commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Pan Am Flight 103 tragedy; and the world premiere in Syracuse of *The Express*, a major motion picture about Orange football legend Ernie Davis '62. "The possibilities are endless—and that's why this is so exciting," Tarr says.

During her first week, bureau reporter Meghan Lisson '09 went to the New York State Fair to cover a competition to design cars capable of traveling at least 100 miles on a gallon of gas. The Newhouse senior found herself in unfamiliar territory—writing about cars, picking photos to post online, and writing captions. "I didn't know the best ones that would tell the story," Lisson says. "I had no idea what I was getting myself into. It put me out of my comfort zone, and I liked that."

Working for a professional news network teaches the bureau members a new curriculum on web journalism. "It's a new way of thinking," Lisson says. "Every time I go into a story, I have to be thinking, 'Can I make this an interactive web story?'" Tarr assigns stories using his eyes, knowing video must excite viewers. "Panel discussions normally make text stories—unless a panelist catches on fire," he says. "Online is a different animal."

The students run the bureau like any newsroom. "They're finding out what it's like to be involved, in a realistic way, with a professional TV network," Wenner says. "It's an invaluable opportunity for the students."

—Sarah DiGiulio



Engineering » A Thirst for Problem Solving

WHY DOES NEW YORK CITY TAP WATER taste so good? An unfathomable mystery for many, the question draws a quick response from Ray Letterman, a civil and environmental engineering professor at the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science. "Most of the city's drinking water comes from high purity sources in the Delaware River basin," Letterman says. "It retains much of that purity because the concrete-lined conduits are so enormous the water has minimal contact with corrosion on solid surfaces, although there is some exposure when water flows through the small pipes of buildings in the final stage of delivery." For several years, Letterman and his students have immersed themselves in solving a problem plaguing the Big Apple's water supply. The Delaware Aqueduct is leaking about 5 percent of the 600 million gallons it carries downstate daily, with almost all of the loss attributable to small cracks at points in the 105-mile system of pipelines and tunnels. The daily escape of some 30 million gallons of potable water, a considerable problem itself, may be causing other difficulties, ranging from flooded basements to new unintended wetlands along the right-of-way. Shutting down the system for repairs is out of the question because there is no temporary substitute, and the cost of replacing it would be astronomical.

Funded by a consortium of engineering firms under contract to the city's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and aided by graduate and undergraduate research assistants, Letterman conducted a series of tests and experiments using laboratory reactors and simulated concrete cracks. The research points to a solution that dazzles with simplicity and thrift: Let calcium carbonate do the work. A harmless and tasteless chemical precipitate, the compound has long been used to slow the naturally corrosive effect of water on concrete and pipe materials. Letterman hypothesized that adding the components of

calcium carbonate to the water flow in controlled amounts would cause the substance to form in cracks, narrowing them to a degree that would significantly reduce leakage. "We developed a computer program simulation model to see what would happen at various quantities, and how fast the calcium carbonate would form," he says. "I was thinking it might require 10 years or more, but the models indicated significant clogging would take place in just weeks. I couldn't believe it—and neither could some of my engineering colleagues. But the computer model was supported by our experiments." This leak control method, according to Letterman, could be implemented without taking the aqueduct out of service and, after leakage is slowed, low dosages of the components of calcium carbonate would minimize formation of new cracks.

While DEP considers larger-scale testing, Letterman is preparing the initial research for publication. Student researchers are documenting their experiences as well. Scott M. Snyder '08, a master's candidate who began working on the project as a chemical engineering undergraduate, made a presentation to the New York Section of the American Water Works Association at a technical symposium last fall in Syracuse. Nataliya Lavrykova '08, who felt she improved her problem-solving skills through field experience at the aqueduct, is currently organizing her research in a paper as well. "I've been involved in all sorts of projects in the 30-plus years I've been at SU," Letterman says. "But seeing this kind of student commitment to work that is so important for so many reasons has made this particularly satisfying." —David Marc

“ I was thinking it might require 10 years or more, but the models indicated significant clogging would take place in just weeks. ”

— Professor Ray Letterman



Rondout Reservoir in the Catskill Mountains (top) is the central collection point for New York City's Delaware Aqueduct system. Scott Snyder '08 and Nataliya Lavrykova '08 (above) immersed themselves in lab and field work involving the aqueduct.



Recreation Services » Fit for Everyone

THE VIGOROUS SOUNDS OF FEET POUNDING TREADMILLS AND CLANKING STEEL weights greet those passing through the glass doors of SU's Marshall Square Mall Fitness Center. The newest gym on campus beckons the University community with state-of-the-art equipment and is fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In designing the center, the planning committee implemented recommendations from the University's Beyond Compliance Coordinating Committee to ensure the workout site was fully accessible to people with disabilities, reflecting SU's commitment to inclusiveness, says Joseph Lore, director of recreation services, who documented the facility's planning and development in the *American Journal of Recreation Therapy*. "Our goal was to respond to student needs and exceed student expectations with the construction of this facility."

The center includes weight machines that can be adjusted for use with a wheelchair, large-screen LCD TVs with closed caption features, and treadmills with Braille overlays on the control panels. The stretching area contains an elevated mat that allows for an easier transition for those in wheelchairs. The bathrooms, showers, water fountains, and lockers all offer ADA-compliant features as well.

Ellie O'Neill G'08 sees the fitness center as a welcomed addition and appreciates that it was built for everyone's use. "The gym is great," says O'Neill, program administrator for the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities at the Whitman School. "It's easy to get around, has all the machines I want to use, and even an exercise mat that is heightened to make it easier for myself and others with mobility problems to transfer onto the mat, instead of all the way to the ground."

The gym's walls are bright orange and deep blue, and the floor consists of blue, hard-rubber sports flooring and wide orange aisles, creating a contrast that assists people who are visually impaired. The bright colors also give the gym a modern and energized look. "We wanted to provide a fitness environment that created a 'Wow' effect with our students as they have continuously requested fitness facilities that have the look and feel of a health club," Lore says. "During the week prior to its grand opening, students were asking how much it cost to join the facility. Once they were told it was free and needed only to show their SU I.D. cards to enter, they were pleasantly surprised."

Fitness enthusiasts have been impressed by the facilities, which opened in fall 2007. Megan McKenna '10 likes the convenient location—just steps away from her base at the Whitman School. "The gym is perfect for all the Whitman students," she says. Jackie Gebel '11 uses the gym to work out three times a week. "It's my favorite gym on campus," she says.

—Krista Flynt

Community Engagement » Art in Action

WITH A DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERA BALANCED ON ONE SHOULDER, Fowler High School senior Ashley Sprague single-handedly recorded the last day of her photography and writing enrichment class. The fact that just 10 weeks ago she had never held a point-and-shoot camera was imperceptible. "I've learned so much over the past 10 weeks," Sprague says. "It was great because normally I would have never had the opportunity to do anything like this. Usually if we take pictures in school, we get into trouble."

Sprague developed her new skills through a class taught inside a renovated 1984 RV called the Mobile Literacy Arts Bus (MLAB). Ten SU art and architecture students in a social sculpture class, along with Professor Marion Wilson, spent a year transforming the RV into a digital photo lab, gallery, and writing classroom complete with laptops, printers, and wireless capabilities. "My graduate assistant, David Clayton, and I came up with this idea out of need," Wilson says. "We would go to schools to provide instruction for students, and the schools wouldn't have room for us. We can now reach 100 students instead of 25."

The MLAB served students at Fowler through the Literacy, Community, and Photography (LCP) program in the College of Visual and Performing Arts, which has brought SU professors and undergraduates to teach Syracuse public school students for the past four years. Under the direction of photography instructor Stephen Mahan and writing program instructor John Colasacco, LCP undergraduates guide students in creative expression through photography and creative writing assignments that will be published in a zine and displayed in a gallery show at the Warehouse. "You can't walk away from this experience without getting something out of it," says photography major Jaclyn Reyes '10. "Some of the students wouldn't write anything when they first started, but now they enjoy it. The MLAB was helpful to the class because students knew it was a space specifically for them. There were no bells and no announcements."

Wilson and social sculpture students completed the MLAB with funding from an Enitiative grant, the Partnership for Better Education, and grants from state Senator David J. Valesky and the POMCO Group. After gutting the RV's original interior, they remodeled it from scratch, completing everything from light installation to electrical rewiring. They also adorned the exterior with graffiti-style graphics.

Samantha Harmon '09 started working on the MLAB the fall of her junior year and says the social sculpture class was more of a time investment than any other course she has taken. "The most demanding time was when I was preparing to go abroad for the spring semester," Harmon says. "I was about to leave the country for four months and instead of preparing for that I was making floorboards."

Building on the success of the class at Fowler, Wilson plans to use the bus at other Syracuse schools during the next three to five years, including Nottingham High School this spring. She also intends to develop similar projects for her social sculpture class in the future. "This was boot camp for Scholarship in Action," she says. "We will use the experience as an educational model for interdisciplinary and community scholarship."

—Timeka N. Williams



“ You can't walk away from this experience without getting something out of it. ”

— photography major Jaclyn Reyes '10





Advancing Excellence » Smiling and Dialing: Student callers connect with alumni

SYRACUSE FIRST-YEAR STUDENT CHRISTOPHER Parker has taken his share of trips down memory lane. On many a night, as a student caller for The Fund for Syracuse, Parker connects with alumni, updating them on campus events and learning about the University's history through personal anecdotes they share with him. "I enjoy talking with our alumni," he says. "It's fun swapping stories about SU, and I know I'm doing something really important for the University."

Parker is one of about 75 students employed by The Fund for Syracuse to work the phones each semester, providing vital resources for the University's continued operation and growth. Last academic year alone, the students successfully raised more than \$1.3 million in contributions from 16,708 alumni and parents of students currently enrolled at SU.

Before making their first call, students learn proper telephone etiquette, effective communication skills, and the latest campus news to share with alumni. Most importantly, they learn how the annual gifts they help raise provide immediately available funds for everything from scholarships and library books to heating, lighting, and snow removal. "Once students understand how the funds they help to raise are used, they see the direct impact on their own college experience. And,

they're more comfortable making those calls," says Tammy Schlafer, executive director of annual giving programs. "They're grateful for the support from alumni because it ensures that SU continues to be a place of opportunity."

Working two shifts a week, students begin calling alumni and parents of students at 6:10 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, with an additional session on Sunday afternoons. Student managers begin each three-hour shift with a round of "Romper Room," a game designed to help break the ice among the 23 callers working each shift. "We stand up, say our name, hometown, year, and major," says Marc Heintzman '11. "Then we answer the question of the day, such as 'If you were a superhero, who would you be?' Romper Room helps us get to know each other and have fun."

As the evening progresses and callers begin to tire, student managers use a variety of incentives to motivate them. Students vie for the honor of being named "Caller of the Week" and compete in "Class Wars" to see who can raise the most money (sophomores are currently in the lead). "We want students to have good conversations with alumni and parents, so we need a way to keep them enthusiastic and upbeat," says Christina Coons '09, one of six student managers. "When a caller brings in a



CALLING FOR SUPPORT

- Students started calling alumni for annual support in the mid-1980s.
- The calling system became fully computerized in 1996.
- Seventy-five student callers contact 46,000 households a year.
- Nearly two-thirds of all donors make their gifts in response to calls from students.
- Student callers raise 10 percent of the \$75 million annual support goal for The Campaign for Syracuse University.
- Twenty percent of parents of first-year students make gifts in response to student callers.
- Ninety-two percent of all student callers contribute their own money to The Fund for Syracuse.

Courtney Greenberg '10, left, is named "Caller of the Week" for bringing in the most pledges.

Marc Heintzman '11 (opposite page) joins other students at The Fund for Syracuse calling center.



Click here to read more about other student callers for The Fund for Syracuse.

new or upgraded pledge, she gets an extra piece of candy or earns bonus points toward a grand prize later in the semester. This helps us maintain our momentum until the end of the shift."

The life of a student caller, however, is not all fun and games. Although most alumni enjoy hearing from students, some are less receptive. Part of the students' training is to learn how to handle rejection by being a good listener and assuring unhappy alumni their concerns will be recorded and responded to in a timely manner. "Most of my conversations with alumni are really friendly, so when I have a difficult call, I've learned to stay calm and not take it too personally," says Courtney Greenberg '10. "I just move on and hope the next one will be better."

When it's time to go, callers turn in their handwritten notes thanking each donor personally for his or her generosity. When asked what they enjoy most about raising funds for SU, nearly all of the students say "connecting with alumni." Christopher Parker agrees. "The majority of alumni have fond memories of SU, and it's really cool to have the opportunity to bring them up-to-date on what's happening on campus," he says. "When I get a good call, I can almost hear the person on the other end smiling—it's really nice." — *Christine Yackel*

PITCHING IN for a Special Cause

STUDENTS AREN'T THE only ones who have manned the phones in The Fund for Syracuse calling center. During the second week of December, a squad of SU faculty and staff volunteers spent four nights drumming up support for the Syracuse Responds Initiative, a special fund-raising effort to assist students impacted by the worst economic climate in decades.

During the phonathon, 73 SU deans, faculty, and staff made 3,000-plus calls and raised more than \$80,000, bringing the total additional financial aid generated to \$1,028,160, enabling 426 students to return for the spring semester.

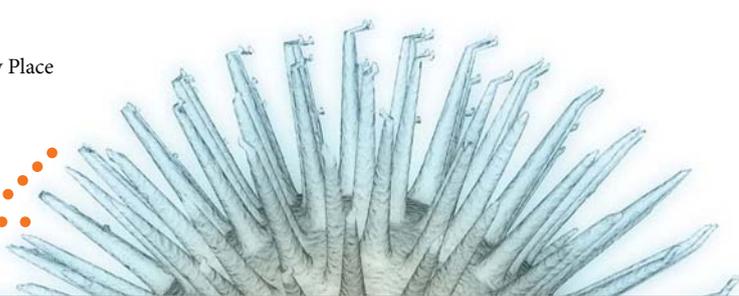
[Learn more about Syracuse Responds and hear some of the students talk about the impact of the initiative.](#)



School of Education Dean Doug Biklen G'73 makes calls to alumni as part of a phonathon to support Syracuse Responds.

RESEARCH SNAPSHOTS

A FOCUS ON RESEARCH AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY



PROJECT: Collaborative Research: Data and Analysis Archive for Research on Free and Open Source Software and its Development

INVESTIGATORS:

Kevin G. Crowston (principal), James Howison, Andrea Wiggins

DEPARTMENT:

Information Studies—Dean

SPONSOR:

National Science Foundation

AMOUNT AWARDED:

\$100,000 (2007-10)

BACKGROUND: This is an SU-led project in collaboration with Megan Squire of Elon University in North Carolina to develop a research community resource in the form of a broadly shared data and analysis archive to further research on Free/Libre Open Source Software (FLOSS) and its development. The goal is to improve the consistency and accessibility of the research by developing a framework for organizing massive amounts of data collected by simultaneous and currently unconnected FLOSS research efforts.

IMPACT: This project will advance knowledge and understanding within the FLOSS research community by enabling cooperation in data collection and providing synergies among ongoing and newly developed projects. It will also promote international collaboration and data sharing among research teams and support the improvement of an important piece of collaborative research infrastructure used by academics, practitioners in the software industry, and society in general.

PROJECT: Agonistic Stress and Cardiovascular Disease Risk in Young Adults

INVESTIGATORS:

Craig K. Ewart (principal), Joshua M. Smyth, Martin J. Sliwinski

DEPARTMENT: Psychology

SPONSOR: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute/National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

AMOUNT AWARDED:

\$1,943,020 (2007-11)

BACKGROUND: Professor Ewart's "Project Heart" studies investigate how difficult living environments affect adolescents and young adults, creating stressful behavior patterns that contribute to high blood pressure and heart disease as they age. This study, in collaboration with researchers at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University, combines data from three studies Ewart conducted with Baltimore public high school students between 1987 and 1999 and invites them to participate in follow-up studies to determine how behavior patterns they displayed in high school may be related to subsequent changes in their health.

IMPACT: The findings will help health scientists identify stress-related behavior patterns and social environments that place people at risk, and that could be targeted by preventive interventions to reduce cardiovascular disease in vulnerable minority youth and young adults.

PROJECT: Innovative Personal Ventilation Systems

INVESTIGATORS:

H. Ezzat Khalifa, Thong Q. Dang

DEPARTMENT: Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

SPONSOR:

Empire State Development Corporation

AMOUNT AWARDED:

\$73,027 (2008-09)

BACKGROUND: The award extends a larger, U.S. EPA-funded program on personal ventilation. Completed in 2004, the original program focused on a novel personal ventilation nozzle invented by engineering professors Mark Glauser and Khalifa that has been demonstrated to provide higher air quality in a person's breathing zone at much lower energy consumption than other personal ventilation nozzles. The ESDC award aims to enhance this work using an invention of Professor Dang that is particularly applicable to stationary seats such as those used in airplanes and theaters.

IMPACT: These personal ventilation devices could accelerate the adoption of so-called personalized environmental conditioning systems that have been shown by numerous researchers to increase a person's satisfaction with air quality and thermal comfort, and enhance productivity.

THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON EASTERN DECIDUOUS FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

The study will inform management strategies that seek to mitigate the influence of ongoing climate change on Eastern U.S. landscapes.



Researchers prepare an experimental plot in central New Jersey as part of biology professor Jason Fridley's study on the impact of climate change on Eastern deciduous forest ecosystems.

PROJECT: Will Climate Change Alter Rates of Old Field Succession Across the U.S. Eastern Deciduous Forest? A Cross-Latitude Experimental Network

INVESTIGATOR: Jason D. Fridley

DEPARTMENT: Biology

SPONSOR:

National Science Foundation

AMOUNT AWARDED:
\$135,000 (2008-10)

BACKGROUND: This research, in collaboration with Duke University professor Justin Wright, focuses on comparing patterns of ecological change across a broad geographic region. Six experimental sites, located along a latitudinal gradient from Syracuse to Tallahassee, Florida, will be used to test the importance of temperature, soil fertility, and plant species pools as major influences on rates of germination, growth, and survival of pioneer trees in Eastern deciduous forest ecosystems.

IMPACT: The study will inform management strategies that seek to mitigate the influence of ongoing climate change on Eastern U.S. landscapes, and supports undergraduate participation in research.

NEW HEAD
FOOTBALL COACH
DOUG MARRONE '91
TALKS ABOUT
HIS RETURN TO
SYRACUSE AND
THE UPCOMING
SEASON.



DOUG MARRONE

NEWSMAKERS

Felicia McMahon, a research professor in anthropology, received the 2008 Chicago Folklore Prize for *Not Just Child's Play: Emerging Tradition and the Lost Boys of Sudan* (University Press of Mississippi, 2007). The prize, awarded by the American Folklore Society and the University of Chicago, recognizes the best book-length work of folklore scholarship. McMahon's book focuses on the Sudanese "Lost Boy" refugees who live in the Syracuse area.

Communications design majors **Lauren Baldesarra '09** and **Jason Christopher Yeadon '09** collected the first place and best in show awards of the ImagiNations design competition, sponsored by Walt Disney Imagineering, the creative arm of Disney parks and resorts. They won for their proposed Disney's Memory Maker and DHD Player, which employs holographic technology to allow Disney theme park guests to capture three-dimensional representations of their vacations.

Syracuse University Press was named 2008 Publisher of the Year by *The Bloomsbury Review*, a national literary magazine. The magazine cited SU Press, in part, for its Middle East Literature in Translation series, which featured *The Virgin of Solitude: A Novel* by Taghi Modarressi, and *Contemporary Iraqi Fiction: An Anthology* edited and translated by Shakir Mustafa.

Television-radio-film professor **Doug Quin** served as sound designer and mixer for *Encounters At the End of the World*, a film by Werner Herzog that was nominated for an Academy Award in the Best Documentary Feature category.

Former All-America quarterback **Don McPherson '87** was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in December. McPherson, a college football commentator and a leading educator and advocate for the prevention of men's violence against women, joined 14 other Orange players in the hall of fame.

Luvenia Cowart G'78, G'80, G'83, professor of practice in the health and wellness department, was honored by the National Institutes of Health with the Health Disparities Excellence Award. Cowart was recognized for her leadership of the Genesis Health Project, a community-based initiative that aims to reduce health disparities, and obesity and related health risks, as well as promote healthy lifestyles among African Americans.

English professor **Sanford Sternlicht G'62** was appointed as "Speaker in the Humanities" by the New York Council for the Humanities. Through the appointment, which will last through 2012, Sternlicht will present a statewide series of lectures titled "The Immigrant Saga: A Memoir of the Lower East Side and Early Jewish American Writers," and "All Things Herriot: James Herriot and His Peaceable Kingdom."

Earth sciences professor emeritus **Marion "Pat" Bickford** was honored with a 2008 Distinguished Service Award from the Geological Society of America (GSA) for his longstanding contributions to GSA publications, including a stint as editor of *Geology* (1987-90), the most widely read journal in the field, and his current service as GSA's book editor.



Field Hockey » Rising in the Rankings

THE SU FIELD HOCKEY TEAM JOURNEYED FURTHER last fall than any team in the program's history, advancing to within one game of playing for the national championship. Second-year head coach Ange Bradley attributed the success to hard work and a single-minded focus on pursuing a dream of being the best team in the country. "There was a real commitment to excellence by the group," Bradley says. "They had a lot of fun together and had such a great competitive spirit."

The Orange rolled from the start, reeling off 14 straight wins, including a victory over perennial powerhouse and eventual NCAA champion Maryland. En route to a 22-2 mark and the Big East tournament title, they became the first ever Orange women's team to rise to the top of the national rankings and advance to the NCAA tournament's Final Four. After ousting Massachusetts (3-2) and Princeton (3-2 in overtime) in the tourney's first two rounds on the home turf of J.S. Coyne Stadium, the third-ranked Orange moved on to the national semifinals in Louisville. In a meeting with second-seeded Wake Forest, the Orange pushed the game into overtime on two goals from forward Lindsey Conrad '11, but then fell, 3-2.

Looking back on the season, Bradley cited three defining moments for the team: registering a tough road win at Michigan State; knocking off Maryland and then Delaware the following day in the Terrapin Invitational; and bouncing back from their first loss of the season, to UConn, with a victory against Holy Cross. "After a

high and after a low, you have to ask, 'What can you come back and do?'" she says. "They proved they could get the job done, and that showed me they were a really special team."

The post-season came with an impressive list of national honors for the Orange. Bradley, a former Maryland assistant who arrived in Syracuse after serving as head coach at Richmond for five seasons, was named 2008 Coach of the Year by womensfieldhockey.com. Midfielder Shannon Taylor '09 was selected as a first-team All-American by both womensfieldhockey.com and Longstreth/NFHCA Division 1. Three other players also achieved All-America status: Conrad, goalie Heather Hess '09, and midfielder Martina Loncarica '12. Taylor netted 31 goals, leading the nation in points (79) and goals per game, and was a finalist for the Honda Sports Award for field hockey. "Shannon just loves the game," Bradley says. "She's an amazing field general, a leader, and someone who has the ability to change a game."

As Bradley gears up the team this spring with a rugged training regimen and scrimmages against top competition, there's no doubt the 2008 season will serve as an inspiration for returning players. "After the season, we had a meeting and I asked them what their goal is for next year," Bradley says. "Every one of them said, 'We want to win a national championship.' I have so much faith in our group. They'll work hard and keep their eye on the prize they want." —Jay Cox