UNH Presents New England Premiere Of “columbinus”

UNH’s Theatre Program presented the New England premiere of “columbinus” this fall. The production, which was critically acclaimed throughout the region, focused on the April 1999 massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. The play weaves together excerpts from discussions with parents, survivors and community leaders in Littleton, as well as diaries and home-video footage to bring to light the dark recesses of American adolescence. Directed by award-winning actor and playwright Robert Boles, head of the UNH Theatre, the play probes the psychological warfare of alienation, hostility, and social pressure that occurs in high schools throughout America. Talkbacks lead by faculty and staff followed each performance.

University’s Magnet School Plans Fall 2008 Opening

The city of New Haven recently received a federal grant to help foster the University of New Haven’s Science and Engineering University Magnet School, a $59 million state-funded facility. Work continues on identifying curriculum specifics and a location for the sixth- through twelfth-grade school, which will eventually be built adjacent to the campus. The magnet school’s sixth-grade class will begin in fall 2008. Additional grades will be phased in annually. Advanced magnet high school students will eventually have an opportunity to enroll in the University’s introductory science, math, and engineering courses. Humanities courses may also be offered to them.

Mummies Aid DNA Research

Thanks to a few 800-year-old mummies from Mongolia, Dr. Heather Coyle and three forensic science graduate students have developed a new method for preparing skeletal remains for DNA extraction. Their findings may have implications for forensic scientists around the globe.

“In the U.S. alone, the remains of 40,000 missing persons are stored in various medical examiners’ offices,” says Dr. Coyle, an assistant professor of Forensic Science at UNH. “If we can extract DNA through a new process, the possibilities could be tremendous. It raises the question of how far back in time we can stretch criminal justice.”

Obtaining DNA is often a crucial step in identifying human remains. DNA extraction is never a simple process, and is sometimes impossible with bones and tissue that have been long buried. But Dr. Coyle and her students have discovered that baking bones can sometimes aid in DNA extraction.

The team presented its findings at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists in New York. In February, it will present those findings to the American Academy of Forensic Science in Washington, D.C.
The $15.5 million David A. Beckerman Recreation Center has opened to widespread acclaim, its gleaming interior visible from the Boston Post Road through floor-to-ceiling glass windows. The Center features state-of-the-art exercise equipment, a gymnasium with courts for sports including basketball, rollerblading, roller hockey, volleyball and indoor soccer, and an illuminated glass-enclosed running track.

There’s more: a fitness center; a multi-purpose room for a variety of activities including yoga, step aerobics and Pilates; and racquetball courts; along with lounges and changing rooms. A juice bar adds a healthy option for members.

The facility, named for UNH alumnus David A. Beckerman ’66, will be the location for the University’s 25th Annual Alumni Scholarship Ball on April 12, 2008.
Law School Feasibility Under Review

The University has embarked on a feasibility study to establish a law school. UNH recently created a vision for a law school that was reviewed by and received high marks from deans of law schools throughout the country, including Drexel University in Pennsylvania and Elon University in North Carolina.

“The experts with whom we consulted agreed that it was certainly appropriate for a university with such strong criminal justice and forensic science programs to consider this,” says University President Steven H. Kaplan. “One of the University’s four strategic directions also calls for UNH to strengthen its arts and sciences programs. Creating a law school would certainly fit that goal.”

Each year, about 40 UNH students go on to law school following graduation. “We want to offer those students a superb option by considering the creation of a University of New Haven law school,” Kaplan said. “This effort would join with a number of other initiatives that we are aggressively pursuing in our effort to become one of the strongest comprehensive universities in the Northeast.”

(See related story, page 14.)

Faculty Artists Display Their Work

The 2007 Visual Art Faculty Exhibition, which included the works of 11 Art, Graphic Design and Interior Design Program faculty members, spotlighted drawing, painting, photography, video, mixed media and design. Faculty participating in the November exhibit are actively engaged in art and design practices and address contemporary issues in their areas of expertise. They included Joseph Smolinski, John Arabolos, Stephen Grossman, Erika Van Natta, Rolandas Klaulevicius, Karen Dow, Jack Tom, Willard Lustenader, Todd Jokl, Richard Rose and Denis Ouellette.

William G. Crutchfield

For Bartels Fellow, Humble Beginnings Yield Impressive Result

William G. Crutchfield, founder of Crutchfield Corp., shared a compelling story Nov. 8 of obstacles overcome and successes celebrated as part of the Bartels lecture, “Being an Entrepreneur for All the Right Reasons.”

Crutchfield, the Fall 2007 Bartels Fellow, spoke as part of the Bartels Lecture Series to a standing-room-only crowd in Dodds Theatre. He told of starting Crutchfield Corp. in his mother’s basement with only $1,000, and building it into one of the nation’s top Internet consumer electronics retailers with sales of about $300 million by focusing on customer service and quality.

The Bartels Fellowship was established in 1989 at UNH through the generosity of Henry E. and Nancy H. Bartels. The Fellowship brings individuals of national stature and prominence in the fields of business or public service to the UNH campus, with the primary goal of broadening the perspectives of the campus community in these areas. Bartels Fellows visit classes, hold open discussions and deliver a formal address to the University.
Academic Endeavors

President Heads College Organization

President Steven H. Kaplan became chairman of the board of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges July 1, a two-year appointment. He will chair two board meetings per year and three executive committee meetings, and will consult with the president of the CCIC, Judith Greiman, on CCIC initiatives. The presidents of the CCIC’s 17 member colleges serve on the board.

Gaboury Named to Human Trafficking Council, Receives MADD Award

Professor and Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice Dr. Mario Gaboury has been appointed to the Connecticut Trafficking in Persons Council. Gaboury and fellow Council members will identify criteria for providing services to trafficking victims and consult with government and non-government organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims, and prosecute traffickers. Gaboury was also recently honored with the Victim Assistance Award by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Connecticut.

Fall Lectures

Gender Distinctions in Marketing

Diversity in Engineering
Mike Ambrose ’84 B.S., general manager of Precision Machined Components at Sikorsky Aircraft in Stratford: “Skills Diversity Role in the Field of Manufacturing Engineering.”

Business in India and China

Travel Anxiety
Dr. Donald C. Smith, UNH professor and past chair of the College of Business: “Pulling the Plug on Culture Shock: A Seven-Step Plan for Managing Travel Anxiety.”

Mixing Business and Politics
John Picard ’87 B.S., West Haven Mayor and UNH alumnus: “Government and Business: Creating a Positive Economic Environment.”

New Technologies for Solving Crimes

Fall lectures continued on page 9

Papua New Guinea Ambassador Speaks at Art Opening


A permanent installation in the Atrium of Dodds Hall, the Seton Collection is a gift from the Setons, longtime art collectors and philanthropists. Fenn Seton, who is deceased, served on the University’s Board of Governors and was active in a variety of ways at UNH. Phyllis Seton continues her affiliation with the University, and was present at the opening of the exhibit.

“It’s wonderful,” she said. “Beautifully done.” The exhibit consists of 23 objects the Setons collected during their travels along the Sepik River in Papua New Guinea, including an Orator Chair, double suspension hooks and numerous masks.
Legacy," an exhibit detailing the story of the effort to create the New Haven Holocaust Memorial, the first Holocaust Memorial to be built on public land. "Freedom to me is not a concept," he told the crowd. "It is a bittersweet reality that rests in the corners of my brain."

Famed Alvin Ailey Dancer, Instructor is UNH Artist-in-Residence

Theresa Howard, acclaimed dancer and instructor at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York City, was UNH’s artist-in-residence in November. Howard, who is also a former dancer with the Harlem Dance Company, held workshops for UNH dance students and area middle school students, met with classes and held a workshop on choosing a career in the arts. Howard has modeled in international fashion magazines and is also a writer whose work has appeared in various magazines. She is currently writing her first work of fiction.

Wise Words Spring from Memories of Horror

Holocaust survivor and UNH graduate Martin Schiller recently spoke on campus regarding the many freedoms available to him, and the responsibility that accompanies those freedoms. That responsibility includes keeping alive the memory of the six million who died at the hands of the Nazis during World War II. Schiller, 74, the author of "Bread, Butter and Sugar: A Boy’s Journey Through the Holocaust and Postwar Europe," spoke at UNH during a reception for “Memory & Legacy,” an exhibit detailing the story of the effort to create the New Haven Holocaust Memorial.

UNH graduate student Amanda Silva reviews the “Memory & Legacy” exhibit on campus, which details the story of the effort to create the New Haven Holocaust Memorial.

The Class of 2011 poses for posterity during Welcome Week in September.
A Dogged Investigator, An Insightful Teacher

Ted Bundy was charismatic, handsome and murderous. A serial killer who held the country in a frightened thrall in the 1970s, Bundy was identified by a tenacious young Washington detective, the son of a Washington state deputy sheriff.

Robert Keppel was his name, and one week into his job as a homicide detective in Washington, he drew a missing person’s case that eventually was linked to Bundy. Soon, murdered women began turning up in larger numbers, and the list of suspects grew larger still.

Keppel devised a computer program that narrowed 3,500 suspects to 25. Ted Bundy was one of them. Then the phone rang. It was the Salt Lake City, Utah sheriff’s office. They had identified a prowler caught in a local neighborhood as Bundy.

Before Bundy’s killings finally ended, he had taken the lives of at least 30 women, and possibly far more. He died in the electric chair, but not before Keppel interviewed him for help with the notorious Green River Killer, who had been responsible for the deaths of at least 50 prostitutes and teenage runaways, primarily in Washington state.

“Technically he wasn’t any help in actually naming the Green River Killer and catching him,” Keppel said. “But in understanding the Green River Killer, he was a big help.”


Keppel’s intensive study of—and long experience with—serial killers led him away from a second career moonlighting as a store detective or a corporate security guard and into the world of education. With his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the University of Washington, Keppel, associate professor of Criminal Justice at UNH, has taught at Seattle University, a private Jesuit school in Seattle, and has been cultivated by universities with the most esteemed Criminal Justice programs in the nation. He is now at work on a book about serial violence.

“My whole life is consumed with how to investigate killers and how to catch them,” he said. “Writing and teaching are ways to help others investigate them. I teach the solvability of murder cases, how to study the killers, how successful investigations proceeded and how the killers were caught. With the book, I am trying to make the reader understand how cases are connected so they can use that to their advantage to catch the killer.”

"My whole life is consumed with how to investigate killers, and how to catch them."

-Robert Keppel, Ph.D.
In the News

Outsourcing to Peru

Chinese Fast Food Industry
Forbes, September 17: Dr. George Haley, UNH professor of Marketing and director of the Center for International Industry Competitiveness, commented.

Law School Feasibility at UNH
New Haven Register, September 21.
Connecticut Post, September 22.
Business New Haven and Business Times, October 1.
Hartford Courant, October 2.

Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act
WTIC’s Colin McEnroe radio program, October 2: Dr. Donna Morris, assistant professor and director of the Legal Studies Program, quoted.

UNH Magnet School Moves Ahead
New Haven Register and WNPR, October 8.

China’s Aircraft Industry Gets Off the Ground
Time, October 11: Dr. George Haley, UNH professor of Marketing and director of the Center for International Industry Competitiveness, commented.

Professors Not Fans of Athletics
MSNBC.com, October 15: Allen Sack, UNH professor and director of the Institute for Sport Management at UNH, quoted.

China’s Aircraft Industry Gets Off the Ground
Time Asia, October 22: George Haley, UNH professor of Marketing and director of the Center for International Industry Competitiveness, commented.

Freshman Year Abroad
Inside Higher Ed, October 23: Dennis Nostrand, UNH vice president for Enrollment Management, quoted.

DNA Research on Mummies
Trentonian, October 27: Dr. Heather Coyle, UNH assistant professor of Forensic Science, commented.

Dental Students Treat Hondurans, South Dakota Indians
UNH dental hygiene students spread their message of oral health this year, working with Honduran islanders and residents of a South Dakota Indian reservation as part of service-learning internships.
Jessica Reder ’07, Janet Dexter ’08, Alyssa Natalino ’08, and Marvalene Brooks ’08 treated more than 65 islanders this summer in Roaton, Honduras. They provided oral-hygiene and nutritional education to about 600 private and public school-aged children including orphaned children, and also gave dental screenings in daycare facilities. Before leaving West Haven, the team collected clothing and sporting equipment, more than $600 in dental supplies and monetary donations of more than $3,000.
This fall, three UNH-licensed hygiene baccalaureate students traveled to the Lakota Indian Reservation in South Dakota. There, they treated more than 250 residents at a dental clinic. Faculty member Carolyn Patenaude accompanied the students, whose service-learning trip was coordinated with the Hawk Wing organization of Connecticut.

UNH student Jordan Moser ’10, an acoustic singer and songwriter, performs on Broadway at College Night in New Haven in October.
Internships Authority to Speak

Emerging International Markets

Freshman Study Abroad
Dennis Nostrand, UNH’s vice president for Enrollment Management, at the annual conference of the National Association for College Admission Counseling in Austin, Texas: “International Study for First-Year Students.”

Recognizing Abusive Behavior

Politics and Business in China

Russia and the Law
Jonathan Silbert, Connecticut Superior Court judge, and three legal experts from Pskov, Russia: “The American and Russian systems of law.”

Careers in the Arts
Theresa Howard, acclaimed dancer and an instructor at the Alvin Ailey Dance American Dance Theater in Manhattan: “Careers in the arts.”

Lobsters Dying in the Sound
Dr. Carmela Cuomo, UNH associate professor of Biology and Environmental Science, former science director at the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission: “Lobster Die-Off in Long Island Sound.”

Digital and Web Marketing
Peter Franz, award-winning marketer, founder and president of Response, LLC, of New Haven and a UNH alumnus, and Carolyn Walker, vice president of Client Services at Response, LLC: “Digital and Web 2.0 Marketing.”

Globalization

Top Provider of English-as-a-Second Language Contracts with UNH
The University has reunited with one of the world’s pre-eminent providers of English-as-a-second-language services, ELS, to provide services for international students who want to improve their English-language skills.

“This will improve our ability to attract students who do not yet have the proficiency in English that they need to succeed,” says Joe Spellman, the University’s director of International Admissions.

ELS, which has a superb international reputation as a provider of English-as-a-second-language instruction, has recently opened several new centers including one in Shanghai. Spellman visited the Shanghai Center Oct. 31.

ELS will be housed at Echlin Hall, and will offer its first on-campus class in fall 2008. It will coordinate its operations through the University College. Art Goon, dean of University College, is elated at the possibilities inherent in the partnership.

“This opens the door to expanding our international recruitment, gives us a greater international presence, and provides greater visibility to our undergraduate and graduate programs,” he says. “It’s terrific that we have them back.”