

Fall 2016

doane
magazine



CRAFTING HIS OWN HISTORY



Giving to the Doane Fund supports Tiger scholars and athletes like Josiah Oyebefun '18.

Read his story on page 15.

doane magazine volume 89 number 2

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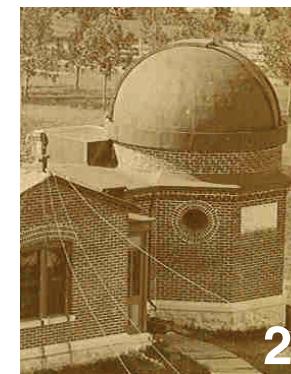
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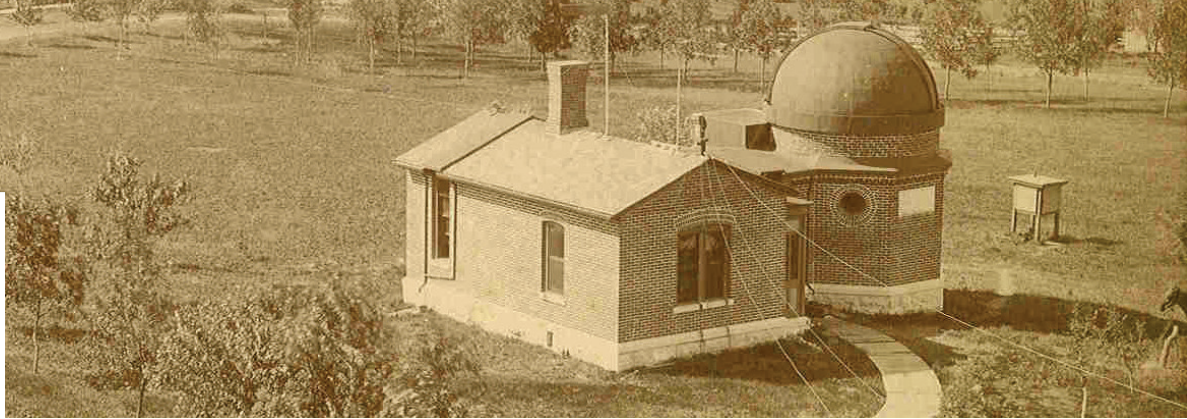
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From the President

One of the pillars of a Doane education is the common experience our students share.

Relationships with professors who know you as a student and as a person. Connections with peers that blossom into lifelong friendships. A degree that exposes you to a little bit of everything while teaching you how to use critical thinking and teamwork to be successful in your career.

On the Crete campus, our residential students have common tangible moments, too. Like starting their college journey by candlelight at Convocation in Cassel Open Air Theatre and ending it in cap and gown for Commencement in the very same place. That extends across our history-rich campus, where memories are made and lessons learned in all of our buildings.

Now we can say the same thing about Boswell Observatory, the new home for the Office of the President! With the addition of the Multicultural Nexus and the Public Safety Office's move to Padour Walker Administration Building this summer, we decided that it was time to re-open the doors of this Doane treasure.

It's really quite a beautiful building, nestled beneath the trees in our quaint historic district with Gaylord Hall, Poet's Grove and Whitcomb Lee Conservatory. Boswell was a marvel in its time; few if any observatories for stargazing could be found on the Great Plains back in the pioneering times of the 19th century. Not only is the observatory listed in the National Register for Historic Places, but our telescope is even registered with the Smithsonian!

While we owe a great deal to those who preserved Boswell's great history, it was important for us to utilize it because we're a living, breathing university. The renovation allowed us to integrate the historic building with the common experience at Doane that binds us all. Now, when I meet for business or chat with students, we have the opportunity to reconnect with our history and be inspired by a tradition that goes back 144 years. At Doane, our surroundings energize our minds to grow.

You'll see stories of Doane catalysts in this issue of Doane Magazine. An alumnus who found his love for theatre on Doane's stages and built it into a life as a master props craftsman. A son of two Christian missionaries whose perseverance led him to our Crete campus, where he's squeezing everything out of every second he has at Doane. And finally a story of a true pioneer, the late Janice Hadfield, architect of our College of Professional Studies and the embodiment of our best values.

It's when we become present in our environment that we can become our better selves, and I hope you take a few notes from these wonderful folks who know what it is to "Live Doane."

Sincerely,

Jacquie Carter

Dr. Jacquie Carter
Doane University President

Awards

Emily Belak '18 (Fremont) and Rachel Lukowicz '17 (Littleton, Colorado) received prestigious awards from the Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures for their oral and research presentations at the annual INBRE conference in August in Nebraska City.

Professor of English Dr. Liam Purdon was awarded a Fall 2017 Quarry Farm Fellowship at Elmira (New York) College's Center for Mark Twain Studies. During his residency and fellowship, he will get to use the archives and collections at Quarry Farm, Twain's summer home in Elmira, New York. In October 2017, Dr. Purdon will make a public lecture about Twain's medievalism in a presentation entitled "Mark Twain's Chaucer and the Narrative Magic of Medieval Literary 'Spunk-Water Stumps.'"

Multicultural Nexus

Doane's Multicultural Support Services office moved into its new home, the Nexus Multicultural Center, in August.

A summer construction project renovated the old home of the Public Safety Office into the Nexus, which houses a common area and work spaces for all students along with offices for two staff members.

One of the highlighted design aesthetics in the Nexus is a recycled resin panel wall from 3form, an interior design company dedicated to sustainability and social responsibility. Doane incorporated a wall from 3form's Varia Ecoresin design line made through the company's Full Circle program employing workers with fair trade wages in Nepal.

To learn more about 3form and its products, visit 3-form.com.

Court of Appeals

The Nebraska Court of Appeals, the state's second-highest court, convened to review appeals from state trial court decisions at Doane's Crete campus on Oct. 12.

The court divided into its customary two panels with three judges each, holding arguments in a morning and afternoon session in Heckman Auditorium.

Current students, student journalists and area high school students were invited to attend.



Publications

Biology

Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Ramesh Laungani co-authored volume 371 of the peer-reviewed journal, "Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences."

Chemistry

Associate Professor of Chemistry Dr. Andrea Holmes; post-doctoral researchers Drs. Raychelle Burks and Michael Kangas; and students Jordyn Atwater '16 (Ayr) and Rachel Lukowicz '17 (Littleton, Colorado) teamed with Ansera Analytics' Pat Williams to write "Colorimetric Sensor Arrays for the Detection and Identification of Chemical Weapons and Explosives," which was published in the "Critical Review in Analytical Chemistry" journal in October.

Music

Assistant Professor of Music Dr. Danni Gilbert had her manuscript "Revitalizing music teacher preparation with selected 'Essential Conditions'" accepted for publication in the "Journal of Music, Technology and Education."

Philosophy & Religious Studies

Assistant Professor of Asian Religions Dr. Courtney Bruntz finished her book review of "Spreading Buddha's Word in East Asia: The Formation and Transformation of the Chinese Buddhist Canon" with the help of editor Jiang Wu.

Associate Professor of Religious Studies Dr. Dan Clanton's book review of "Envisioning the Book of Judith: How Art Illuminates Minor Characters" was published in the "Review of Biblical Literature."

Associate Professor of Philosophy Dr. Pat Monaghan's book review of "The Facts in Logical Space" was printed in "Philosophy in Review."

Sociology

Assistant Professor of Sociology Dr. Kari Gentzler '09 co-authored "Interactive Effects within the Prototype Willingness Model: Predicting the Drinking Behavior of Indigenous Early Adolescents," an article published in "Psychology of Addictive Behaviors."



Laungani



Holmes



Gilbert



Bruntz



Clanton



Monaghan



Gentzler

Omaha

On May 23, Dena Stevenson became the director of Doane’s Omaha campus, part of the College of Professional Studies offering bachelors’ and masters’ degrees to adult learners.

Stevenson’s career started in healthcare before switching to the banking world, but throughout it all runs a thread of teaching on the job and professional development. At different times in her career, she was an adjunct instructor for Nebraska Wesleyan University’s Advantage Program and Southeast Community College.

She spent the last five years of her career as the organizational development and learning manager for American National Bank in Omaha, bringing employees together to develop further in their respective positions and fostering a community that grew together.

“I’m looking forward to making sure that people who want to grow and develop for their careers have an opportunity to know what we have to offer and hopefully take advantage of that,” said Stevenson, who owns a master’s degree in adult and continuing education.



Stevenson



Photos by Aspen Green.

Online

Doane appointed Andrea Butler as the director of its new online education programs, launched this fall, on Sept. 1.

The U.S. Air Force veteran has extensive experience in higher education, having taught as an adjunct faculty member at Nebraska Methodist College, Creighton University and Nebraska Wesleyan University.



Butler

Butler was most recently NWU’s executive director of enrollment management and community engagement for its adult and graduate programs.

“Andrea brings solid experience in all those areas necessary to make our online strategy succeed: program development, student recruitment and management of online staff,” said Dr. John Burney, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty. “She is committed to Doane’s mission and vision for quality online offerings and has the communication skills to help tie a complex program together. We look forward to the energy and ideas that Andrea will bring to our expanding adult initiatives.”

Doane’s current programs available online are the Master of Arts in Management, Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction and health profession prerequisite courses.

University Party

Doane’s Student Affairs team hosted its university celebration party in Cassel Open Air Theatre on Sept. 20, ushering in Doane’s new era as students returned for the new school year.

On May 9, the day after Spring Commencement, the school changed its name from Doane College, the original moniker since 1872, to Doane University.

Soccer

Director of Athletics Jill McCartney hired Jennifer Kennedy-Croft to become the new head coach of Tiger Women’s Soccer in May.

After her college career at University of Connecticut, Kennedy-Croft rose through the coaching ranks as an assistant at her alma mater, Maine,

Princeton, Rhode Island and Arkansas before landing her first head-coaching job at Seattle University. After five years with SU, she accepted an assistant coaching position at Utah State University and eventually became head coach in 2001.

Her family moved to Nebraska and

she worked at Creighton University and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Kennedy-Croft stayed involved with soccer while living in Omaha, helping with Creighton’s club team and Omaha Fútbol Club.

She brought a 47-39-11 collegiate career record to Doane.

International

Doane University made its partnership with China’s Hebei Agricultural University official May 12, signing an undergraduate collaborative education program agreement.

The partnership solidifies a “2+2 program” in which students will spend their first two years at HAU in Baoding, China, before completing their degree over two years at Doane.

The first graduates of the program received their diplomas the day before at 2016 Commencement in Cassel Open Air Theatre.

Xiaonan Bai ’16 (Cangzhou, China) received her Bachelor of Arts in English as a second language; Jiachen Cao ’16 (Shijiazhuang City, China) received her Bachelor of Arts in economics; Liu Kaiyi ’16 (Baoding) received her Bachelor of Arts in business administration; Qing Li ’16 (Shijiazhuang City) received her Bachelor of Science in biology; and Wanying Wei ’16 (Qinhuangdao, China) received her Bachelor of Arts in economics.

Delegates from HAU joined the students on stage during graduation ceremonies, and stayed on the Crete campus the next day to formalize the agreement with Doane officials.

Vice President Shen Shuxing and colleagues Yan Guojun, Ran Longxian, Hao Shuzhen, Huang Xuanrui and Zhao Zongzhi represented HAU at the meeting.

Tennis

Doane tennis alumnus Ed Hubbs ’76 was hired as the new director of Tiger Tennis and Waverly native Seth Harris was named the new head coach for men’s and women’s tennis in June.

Hubbs, the most decorated tennis student-athlete in program history, brings a wealth of experience to the position. A member of the Nebraska Tennis Hall of Fame and Doane’s Athletic Hall of Fame, Hubbs spent almost 20 years coaching men’s and women’s tennis at Creighton

University before working as the City of Omaha Parks and Recreation Department’s director of tennis.

The 1976 alumnus went undefeated in conference championship play all four years in both singles and doubles play. Hubbs was a three-time NAIA National Championship qualifier and was a four-year conference and district champion.

Meanwhile, Harris comes to Doane from McKinney, Texas, where he was the head tennis professional at Eldorado

Country Club. He began his coaching career in 2011 at Wakonda Country Club in Des Moines, Iowa, and went on to become the head boys’ tennis coach at Ames (Iowa) High School.

He graduated from Waverly High School as the No. 2 singles state champion in Class B, and played college tennis for NCAA Division III Central (Iowa) College, where he became a team captain and received All-Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honors.

Rankings

Doane was once again recognized nationally for the quality of its education and student outcomes during the 2016 summer rankings season. The university was ranked in:

- **Forbes’** 2016 “America’s Best Colleges” for the eighth straight year.
- **The Princeton Review’s** 2017 Best Regional Colleges “Best in the Midwest” category, calling it one of “156 premier colleges in the Midwest.”
- **U.S. News and World Report’s** “Top National Liberal Arts College” list, the only Nebraska school ranked in the category.
- **The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education** College Rankings, placing 394th in the nation and second in Nebraska in its inaugural list.
- **Washington Monthly**, 120th in its “National Universities – Liberal Arts” list and 157th in its “Best Bang for the Buck – Midwest” value rankings.

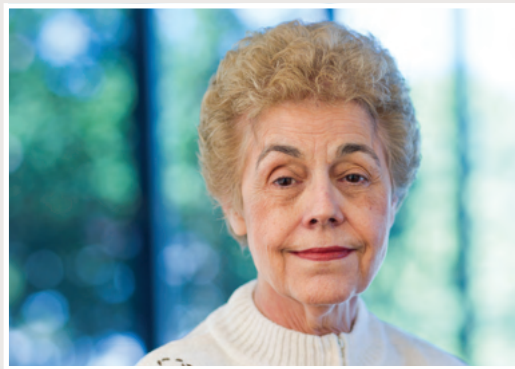
Doane was also honored by **The Chronicle of Higher Education**, as one of just 93 colleges and universities nationwide earning its “Great College to Work For” distinction. Specifically, the university received high marks for its “Tenure Clarity and Process” for faculty.

EARN
YOUR
SHIELD

Remembering Janice

Late dean leaves legacy as leader, champion for students.

by Rebecca Svec



In the last months of Janice Hadfield's life, Deb Savage visited her nearly every day.

Janice, the dean of Doane's College of Professional Studies, had hired Deb to direct its nursing program and the two bonded immediately. Janice convinced Deb she had the talent needed for the role and became her teacher and mentor. She encouraged Deb to begin classes toward Doane's Education Specialist degree.

When Deb and her family lost everything in a devastating house fire in 2012, it was Janice who helped her through.

"That lady was my rock," Deb says, emphatically.

Janice completed an accreditation report for Deb so that she could concentrate on rebuilding. Deb's son Matt spent a lot of time with the Hadfields and considered Janice and her husband Larry as his adopted grandparents.

Last spring, Deb realized something that hadn't occurred to her before. Calls and emails for Janice were coming in from across the state. People thanked Janice for the difference she made in their lives. Janice had been like a grandmother to their children, they said.

For a fleeting moment, Deb felt something between jealousy and admiration.

"I remember thinking 'But I thought I was your special one,'" Deb says, laughing quietly at the memory.

Janice was a master of making people—students above all—feel singular and exceptional.

To her, they were all special.

• • •

Doane met Janice in 1986. Thirty years later, in July of 2016 at age 72, the university lost her, following a decline that began with a slip on ice, then rehabilitation and pneumonia.

She will be remembered as "one of the greatest administrators in the history of Doane."

"She took a program that was

important to the college from a relative handful of students to, at one point, more than 2,000 students enrolled," says President Emeritus **Fred Brown '59**, who worked with Janice for his entire presidency (1987-2005). "She moved the campus physically. She added new campuses."

Doane would not be what it is today if Janice hadn't taken ahold of it.

"She turned it loose," Fred says.

“
She moved the
campus physically.
She added new
campuses. ... She
turned it loose.

-Fred Brown '59

”

On her unfailing watch, what began as a "bold experiment" doubled the college's student population and expanded Doane from an undergraduate liberal arts college into a university, encompassing three adult learner campuses, 12 undergraduate programs for nontraditional students, master's degrees in Counseling and Administration and even online programs. In the same time period, the Education Department added its master of education degrees, Education Specialist degree and a doctoral degree.

After her passing, coworkers and students shared memories of Janice,

who was simultaneously a fixture of the university's history and a relentless voice for its future. Her success, they said, came from her leadership and the culture she created for adult learners.

When President Emeritus Phil Heckman hired Janice, she brought experience educating the adult learner population that was just being recognized as a target group in the Midwest. These were learners who had veered from the path that linked high school graduation with enrollment on a residential campus designed for 18- to 23-year-old students: They were students who married and started families. They entered the workforce or the military. They traveled. They had a degree but wanted another. They lost jobs and wanted education to turn their life in a new direction.

"Nontraditional students are engineers, nurses, secretaries, CEOs, production-line workers, teachers, parking lot attendants, dog walkers and exotic dancers," Janice wrote in "Recruiting and Retaining Adult Learners," a journal article. "They are immigrants, displaced homemakers, professionals changing careers, individuals seeking personal growth and development, grandparents, single parents and married couples..."

Neglecting to see and meet the needs of this kind of student was her definition of failure.

"She saw where the market was going and kept adding nuances," Fred says. "She met student needs in ways nobody else in the Lincoln area was doing."

Janice wanted so much more than students' credit hours. When students walked through the doors she wanted them to feel like they'd stumbled upon an educational oasis, where someone was waiting to help them.

She wanted them to succeed, transition, gain confidence and self-awareness, and knock on doors they hadn't approached before. She believed the time the busy adult students gave to their degrees was as precious a resource as their money. »



▲ Janice Hadfield chats with students at an event on Doane's Crete campus. *Doane Archives*

"She was a servant. That's one of my words for her. She was always asking 'What can I do to serve you?'" Deb says.

No one interviewed chose the same word to characterize Janice, describing her as everything from loving and humorous to poised, entrepreneurial, civic leader, dynamic and direct.

• • •

Fred knew immediately that Janice could run Doane's fledgling campus in Lincoln.

Janice held a bachelor's from the University of Memphis and a master's in human relations from the University of Oklahoma. While her husband was stationed at Offutt Air Force Base in the early 1980s in Omaha, she worked for the University of Oklahoma, helping it establish an adult learning campus at Offutt.

Fred returned to his alma mater from a provost position at Buena Vista University, where he helped start and teach some of its programs for adult learners. The shared knowledge of adult learning made for a strong bond between Doane's 10th president and Janice. She was comfortable speaking freely to him. The remarkable thing, in his eyes, was that no matter the answer or task, she accepted it with a positive spirit.

"We'll do it. We'll take care of it," she'd say," Fred says. "When she left the office, she was already on the case."

An equally important talent, in his opinion, was her ability to win buy-in. "She could command somehow—by her enthusiasm and insistence—that

we meet (student) needs, and other people bought in," Fred says. New hires caught her spirit of service. Doubters faced her energy and determination.

Her perseverance paid off time and time again.

For much of her career, **Pappy Khouri '70**, (former Treasurer and vice president of finance) was in charge of facilities. Janice would tell Pappy she needed more space. He'd voice concerns about paying for the increased rent. "She'd respond that if she had the space, she could fill it with students, but she couldn't get more students without the space."

"She won those battles, all the way to buying the whole building," Fred says, chuckling.

• • •

When Janice recruited students and reached out to community leaders, she was just as effective at persuading them that Doane needed them and they needed Doane.

Jim Mastera '87L, '96A earned his undergraduate degree from the Lincoln campus when it was still housed in the Selection Research facility. Jim was in the middle of a 42-year career with Cornhusker Bank, where he eventually retired as executive vice president. He earned his bachelor's at Doane to finish a college education he had started long before.

Soon after, Janice convinced Jim to make a presentation to the college's Board of Trustees on the need to add master's programs.

"I don't claim any responsibility,"

Jim says, "but about four years later, the master's program did begin."

Janice then convinced him to enroll in the new Master of Arts in Administration program, which she led as its dean. He really wasn't that interested, he explained, already established in a successful career.

"She told me 'You will stop by my office and register. We need a small pilot program and you are in it,'" Jim says.

If it sounds forward, that's because it was. Janice was direct and straight, particularly with people she trusted. Jim listened to her promise of what the program would be and he registered. The liberal arts core that runs through all programs "...changed my life because of how I think about and see things."

He kept ties with Doane for many years, returning to its classrooms to share his real-world knowledge of business and finance, but Janice wasn't done persuading.

"She called me one day and said, 'I need to get the word out about the campus and you are in the Downtown Rotary Club. I want to speak to your club,'" Jim says.

She shared Doane's message eloquently to the room of about 150 community leaders, Jim recalls. "Many of us get tunnel vision, but hers was broad and above all, future oriented."

• • •

It would have been easy for Janice to rest on laurels. By 2005 the Lincoln campus served 1,000 undergraduates and an additional 2,500 graduate students each year (including students from the Education Department). A second adult learner campus opened in Grand Island in 2003. Other four-year colleges were trying to replicate Doane's success and internal student satisfaction surveys gave "astonishingly high approval ratings" **Donald Ziegler '50** wrote in his book "Doane College in Lincoln: The First 20 Years."

Feedback praised Doane's support for students, even after they graduated. Learners genuinely felt they mattered because Janice and her staff were

genuine, said **Lynn Willey**, who earned a bachelor's in business administration at Doane's Lincoln campus in 1991.

While looking through old photos recently one college picture stood out to Lynn. Janice was hugging her on stage after she'd received an academic award.

"You can see the emotion in it. Janice gave me this big heartfelt hug," Lynn says.

Lynn had come to campus with tentative steps, not fully believing she could earn a degree while raising a family and working full time. Janice made her believe in herself and the program, and she has worked in Lincoln for Southeast Community College as a placement specialist for the last 21 years thanks to her education at Doane.

"Without the degree, I would not be in the position I have today," Lynn says.

• • •

Doane's Fall 2016 census counts a combined 862 full- and part-time students enrolled in the adult learner undergraduate and graduate programs in Counseling and Management. Students are now enrolled at one of Doane's three satellite campuses in Grand Island, Lincoln and Omaha, which opened in 2014.

Lincoln Campus Director **Angie Klasek '81, '95A** is a constant in that growth, from the first class of seven to the current term. She was the campus administrative assistant when Doane selected Janice as the new dean, and she still remembers the excitement she felt when she heard Janice speak about how adult students should be treated, the right way to deliver instruction and the importance of selecting faculty who were practitioners in their field. It so perfectly matched her own feelings and the intent of the Lincoln campus, it felt like two puzzle pieces clicking together.

"She looked at me and said, 'We get to work together? This is unbelievable,'" Angie says.

Her hire was a clear turning point, Angie says. The Lincoln campus was established and growing, but with Janice on board the goal became

broader than enrollment numbers.

"We truly wanted to have the edge," Angie says.

In that hire, Doane gained a person of vision and "students gained their biggest advocate," Angie says. The loss of Janice was as much personal as professional for her.

“

Getting the opportunity to have the person you work with every day be one of your best friends, be an amazing mentor and work partner is unbelievable.

-Angie Klasek '81, '95A

”

"Getting the opportunity to have the person you work with every day be one of your best friends, be an amazing mentor and work partner is unbelievable."

• • •

In a way, the staff began mourning Janice's absence before her loss. It began while she was away from campus for rehabilitation, recalled Kerry Fina, coordinator of the Doane Core for the College of Professional Studies and assistant professor of

practice in liberal arts studies.

They missed their leader, with her open door and patient, ready advice. Janice shaped them and cared about their growth as an employee and a person, said Kerry, who first met her as a Lincoln campus student.

He did not know how much he would learn from her in the future.

"Janice would tell it like it is, but the wonderful thing about Janice was, she'd say 'Here's the problem. Let's fix it,'" Kerry says. "When it was done, that was the end of it. She was a great mentor who talked me through my mistakes and my decision-making process."

She set the bar for work ethic sky-high, still working 60-hour weeks right before her accident. It took time to answer staff questions and student concerns, and she gave people her full attention, a means of giving and getting respect and trust. She was also a "research junkie," Kerry said, addicted to learning about the latest trends in education.

In the last years of her career, she continued to add new programs and majors and tweaked existing programs to make sure they reflected the world outside of academia.

Kerry's word for Janice is: "loving." She was a mother and grandmother and it showed in the basket of chocolate on her desk for students; in the way she welcomed babies and children visiting the campus.

"She was one of two leaders I've known in my life who specifically said 'I love you' to the people on the team around her and she meant it. It was sincere and authentic," Kerry says. "She would say things like 'Kerry, you and I can say anything we want to each other. I depend on you and count on you. This is a safe space.'"

She loved them like family, he said, even choosing her rehabilitation facility based on its proximity to the Lincoln campus. Rehabilitation staff teased her about her lack of hobbies and recreational activities.

She told them what she often told her coworkers: "Working at Doane is my fun." ■

CRAFTING HIS TOWN HISTORY

Seán McArdle '94 fashioned his career through a love of theatre, handiwork as a props designer.

By **Lucas Fahrer**

New York City's Joseph Papp Public Theater is a theatre lover's paradise.

Opened in 1954, its stages—and Delacorte Theater, The Public's summer retreat in Central Park for Shakespeare in the Park—have played host to some historic showings, from the musical "Hair" to the off-Broadway debut of "Hamilton."

(Yes, that "Hamilton," which netted 11 Tony Awards including Best Musical this year.)

So when a theatre aficionado like **Seán McArdle '94** set foot in The Public for a job interview in 2002, he was awestruck—but also painfully reminded of his short attention span in his theatre history class at Doane.

The production manager led him on a tour of each of The Public's stages. First, a stop in Anspacher Theater where "Hair" premiered in 1967.

"Wow," Seán thought to himself,

"maybe I should've paid attention in theatre history class."

Next, the Newman Theater, where "A Chorus Line" opened off-Broadway.

"I really should've paid attention in theatre history class," he thought.

And for the final act, he was led upstairs to the administrative offices where karma struck a third time. Hanging on the wall was a poster of Raúl Juliá as Mack the Knife in "The Threepenny Opera." It was the exact same poster that used to hang in the office of one Dr. Charles Railsback, the former head of Doane's theatre department.

"Charles taught that theatre history class that I didn't pay attention in," Seán says. "When I saw that poster that I'd been seeing since I was 12, I went 'I really should've paid attention in theatre history class! It might've been relevant to this job interview.'"

As luck would have it, it wasn't the industry's history that he needed to get the job. It was his ability to make his own.

Now, 14 years later as a master props craftsman in Minneapolis and the owner of his own prop fabrication business, Seán has his own history in the field.

The Public was the kind of challenge that built him into the artisan he is today.

"I had no idea what I was getting myself into, but I had the resume for it," says Seán, who won Doane's 2007 Young Alumni Award. "I look back and I didn't have the experience for it, but I didn't know anybody else who was crazy enough to do the job without an assistant."

It's one chapter of many in what he calls his "theatre origin story."

ACT I

In which Seán searches for a "viable career path."

It all started in Crete, where Seán grew up in a family deeply tied to Doane.

His parents, **Pat '68** and **Eunice Kemper '70 McArdle**, were among several family members that attended Doane.

Growing up in the 1970s and 1980s, Seán fondly remembers the Nebraska Theatre Caravan—the touring arm of the Omaha Community Playhouse—starting its annual roadshow in Crete, and he was always there, ready to lend a helping hand. He volunteered to unload their trucks, full of props and costumes and equipment.

When he was 12, he latched on to Doane Summer Theatre, a community program that put on a show every summer.

At Crete High School, he stayed involved in school theatre productions, but it just wasn't enough. He wanted more work. Bigger work.

"When I got into high school, the theatre bug was biting me harder and harder," he says. "I figured out that I could go over and actually volunteer for Doane College Theatre when I was in high school. I started doing that my sophomore year."

So he crossed 13th Street and pitched in for a few hours after school, working in the theatre prop shop. Sometimes, he even spent his Saturdays there, too.

That's how he met Juli Burney, a former technical director for the department (1986-91) and now an organizational communication instructor at Doane's Lincoln campus. She took him under her wing and showed him the ropes of what goes into a theatre production.

He quickly found an affinity for not acting. Behind the scenes is where Seán always felt at home and how he could tap into his imagination.

"He was very creative. He was wonderful to turn to for brainstorming ideas," says Juli, who still dabbles in

theatre from time to time with the Lincoln Community Playhouse. "Plus he had a true talent for art, whether it was building props or drawing pictures. He just had a great visual eye."

Seán put his skills to work back when all of Doane's theatre productions were in Heckman Auditorium, while Whitcomb Lee Conservatory—now a sort of black box theater space for all of the department's shows—was just used for storage. He remembers being at the forefront of experimenting with productions in new spaces on campus, like Gaylord Hall's DCTV studio.

In the technical side of the theatre, trial and error is commonplace, and he learned that skill early and often. To test his skills in video design, before he even knew how to work the proper technology, he took some ... creative liberties.

"I was literally stealing VCRs from quad mates and editing back and forth on general, old VCRs. It was terrible," Seán says. "I figured out how to hook it up to my computer and I did a weird computer morph animation, and it was just enough that we were proud of what we came up with with so little resources."

Those small victories kept him fascinated with the craft, but it also led

him to become much more involved in Doane Theatre than the rest of his education.

"I did theatre to the extent that it got me in trouble with other classes," he says, "because I was one of those guys that had a tendency to spend all of my time in the theater rather than lab time for geology class."

Juli set him straight. She was the one that finally steered him from considering theatre a passion to a career path. After a show, he and Juli were talking with his parents, who had their hesitations that Seán could actually make a living in theatre.

His dad, Pat, wasn't so sure it was a "viable career path." Juli thought otherwise.

"I said that he had the potential to do whatever he wanted to do and to make some good money," Juli says. "He and his dad, that's a conversation we had on a couple of occasions. I'm kind of proud that I proved him right on that one."

Then Seán got serious with his career path. He became the department's student unifying technical director, working as Juli's second-in-command in the scene shop 4-6 p.m. every day after school and 9 a.m. to 5 a.m. on Saturdays. He took a year off from Doane to study abroad in the United Kingdom, »



▲ Seán McArdle '94 poses with a prop rifle in his home workshop for Hero Props, his own business, in Minneapolis. *Andrew Mattson*



taking fine art and Shakespeare classes at the University of Sunderland in Northeastern England.

When he was back stateside, he kept picking up experience wherever he could find it.

Juli connected him with the Lied Center's Nebraska Repertory Theatre in Lincoln, getting him into an assistant prop master position. By the end of that summer, he took over as the head prop master.

He worked on the shift crew for the Utah Shakespeare Festival, his first large-scale, professional summer stock job in theatre.

After graduating from Doane with his bachelors' in theatre and fine art, he picked up a few theatre jobs but decided to audition for theatre graduate school.

Despite what he calls a "rough portfolio," Seán was accepted into the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's set design program even though he had little experience in it. His graduate assistantship placed him in UI's prop shop under the tutelage of Jim Guy, who had worked at the Cleveland Playhouse and later went on to become Milwaukee Repertory Theater's prop master.

Within a matter of a months, he convinced Seán to switch into his Master of Fine Arts prop design and management program.

"I was working everyday with Jim anyway and it was obvious that was where my heart was and it was much more interesting to me," Seán says. "I had landed in one of the only MFA (prop design) programs in the country by complete coincidence."

It was an intensive three years, but again, he'd found the mentor that steered him closer to his career path.

"Juli got me on the first leg and Jim

got me on the next," Seán says. "I came out of that program like I'd gotten six years of education in three because of how much information Jim crammed into my head."

ACT II

When Seán reaches the stars.

In the world of props, the best prop is one that doesn't make or break the show. It simply functions according to plan.

Seán's seen both sides of the coin.

In Sam Shepard's "Kicking a Dead Horse," he built a dead horse puppet out of a taxidermied horse form and installed a remote control system that helped it fall into a grave on its own at the end of the play.

He's made Jell-O eyeballs for "King Lear."

Compressed air rifles that could (safely) imitate gunsmoke for "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "Les Miserables."

"I had to build this stuff and make sure it worked every single time so that it was dependable and something they didn't have to worry about," Seán says. "That's the entire point."

The actor-activated blood packs he worked on for "Macbeth" at the Delacorte weren't dependable enough. The actor could never get them all to burst over the course of the play.

A few years later, he worked on "Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo" by Rajiv Joseph and found the solution for a similar prop. He patched together a blood rig system macgyvered out of CO2 cartridges, camping equipment and a "DIYers remote for your own garage door."

"Oftentimes, if we're doing our job right, people shouldn't know," Seán says.

It's a lot of trial and error, but over

time, it gets easier.

Before The Public, he bounced around theatre jobs, starting at Prism Production Services where he built props and shipped them off to plays and movie sets. (One of his first props—a keypad—appeared in the Academy Award-winning film "A Beautiful in Mind" in 2001.)

And on any given production, his job means working side-by-side with big names: The late Robin Williams on "Bengal Tiger." Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline in "Mother Courage and Her Children." Game of Thrones' Peter Dinklage in "Richard III." Liev Schreiber in "Macbeth." Sam Shepard and Stephen Rea in "Kicking a Dead Horse," "Ages of the Moon" and "A Particle of Dread (Oedipus Variations)."

In New York City, he worked his way through freelance gigs and plenty of jobs where help was sparse, like his stint at The Public, where he spent the first two years as a one-man prop department.

Nevertheless, he got to work with big-time actors. His first day at The Public was a meet and greet with the cast for "Twelfth Night." Names like Julia Stiles, Oliver Platt, Christopher Lloyd, Jimmy Smits and Zach Braff were on the playbill.

"I was like 'What job did I just get?'"

Seán worked on show after show.

For productions of Shepard's own play, "Kicking a Dead Horse" starring Rea, he built props at The Public and then abroad for its London showings. Down the road, Shepard hired him on for the production of "Ages of the Moon," another play starring Rea, in Dublin.

By 2007, his impressive young career led Doane to name him the recipient of the Young Alumni Award.

But for the two years after he left The Public, 2008-10, his career became a juggling act of several jobs while he struggled to afford living in New York.

"It became a rollercoaster, because I'd either be doing these really super cool gigs that were out of town or I'd be taking every possible gig I could

take in New York to make ends meet," Seán says. "I was off-Broadway prop mastering as many as three shows at a time at theaters like The Atlantic, New York Theater Workshop and The Roundabout."

Eventually, it "priced him out," but he realized that the best shows he was working on and his favorite projects weren't in New York anyway. With an

For their show "How We Got On," Chris watched as Seán bounced around Louisville picking up vintage DJ equipment—and getting it to actually work and function—to bring the show's 1980s hip hop scene to life.

"He makes the most amazing stuff for shows," Chris says. "The amount of effort and time he puts into his work, and the payoff, is amazing."

“He makes the most amazing stuff for shows. The amount of effort and time he puts into his work, and the payoff, is amazing.”

-Chris Owens '11

extensive network from freelancing, he could afford to set up shop elsewhere and still take jobs around the country.

For Seán, Minneapolis became the natural choice.

ACT III

When Seán goes full circle.

Alpha Pi Epsilon fraternity is an artsy bunch.

Year in and year out, they take in pledges often seen in Doane's fine arts programs, whether they're singing on tour for Doane Choir or putting together productions for Doane Theatre.

Seán was that way. And so was Chris Owens '11.

The Benkelman native came to Doane with hopes of going into broadcast journalism only to find his calling with directing in theatre.

He used his video editing skills from journalism to land his first job after graduation as an intern at Actors Theatre of Louisville. Through the media and technology team, he ended up working with Seán, a fellow APE who was a guest prop designer for its Humana Festival in 2012.

Their friendship and professional relationship grew from there. Seán connected Chris with several of his contacts in New York theatre and helped him learn how to network. A few years later, Chris repaid the favor by helping him and some of his friends on a labor of love, "Outopia for Pigeons," by providing video editing for the show.

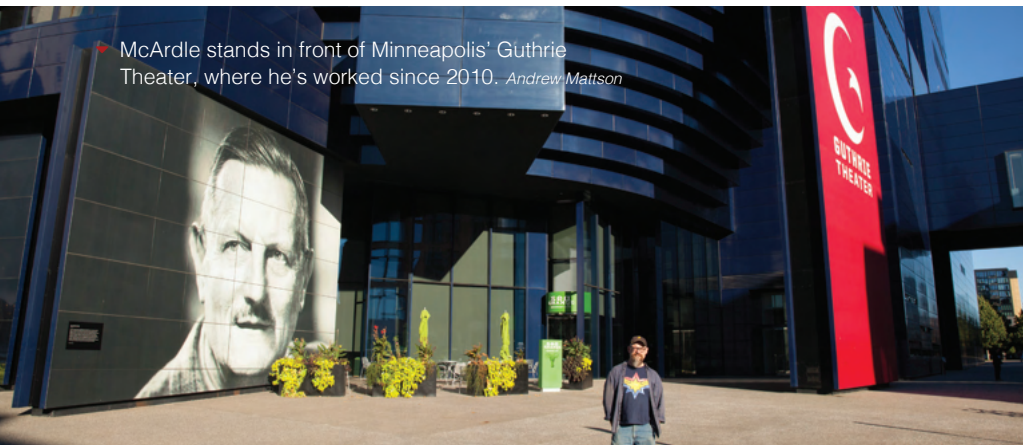
That's the kind of thing that his fraternity brothers come together on.

"I think it's what brought us together," says Chris, who now freelances in theatre while working at Kehoe Designs, a full-service event company in Chicago. "I think the APEs are just a group of creative people, and when you get a bunch of them together, more creativity happens."

"An Outopia for Pigeons"—featured in a 2014 issue of American Theatre Magazine for its set design—was a full circle experience for Seán. Working with Chris, a fellow Doane Theatre grad, and using an old birdbath from his parents' backyard in Crete reminded him of home, where his "theatre origin story" started.

He hasn't been back for a few years, but he stays connected to Doane »

◀ *Top:* Two halves of a giant disco ball—built for Tommy Hilfiger's flagship store in New York City—sit in McArdle's home workshop. *Second from top:* McArdle and Chris Owens '11 worked on "An Outopia for Pigeons," a 2013 theatre production heralded for its set design in a 2014 issue of American Theatre Magazine. *Middle:* McArdle covered a Volkswagen Beetle in seashells for a storefront display he built for Tommy Hilfiger in 2013. *Second from bottom:* For a Minneapolis Children's Theatre Company production of "The Wizard of Oz," McArdle built this flaming broom prop. *Bottom:* Tommy Hilfiger commissioned McArdle to build these two book wheels for its stores in San Diego, California, and Westchester, New York. *Courtesy Photos*



McArdle stands in front of Minneapolis' Guthrie Theater, where he's worked since 2010. *Andrew Mattson*

through Juli, Chris and others.

When he went to Los Angeles to work on his second run with “Bengal Tiger,” he stayed with **Leif Gantvoort '94**—his college roommate and a movie actor.

He consults with **Dr. Amy Sack Vertin '95**, Crete Area Medical Center's emergency room doctor, for fluid delivery systems that can double as props.

“It's kind of hilarious to the both of us that we've gone on such divergent paths yet we have such weird crossover,” Seán says.

Now, he's moving forward with his own art.

ACT IV

In which Seán moves onward up-north-ward.

Seán's been happy to call Minnesota home for the last six years.

The longer he's been there, the less he's traveled. For his freelance business Hero Props, he's building out of his garage and shipping props around the country rather than traveling to work on-site.

He's worked at the Guthrie Theater in downtown Minneapolis in one role or another since 2010, but for the last two years, he's been the full-time master prop artisan. It's a union job, so he's enjoying the regimented workdays and breaks after years and years of crammed schedules.

Under a new artistic director, Seán says the Guthrie has gone from “a dated sensibility” to “an incredibly progressive stance” with a focus on storytelling for people of color. At

the theater, he serves on a diversity and inclusivity committee, one of his favorite parts about the job.

“We have this newfound focus and it's an amazing thing to be a part of,” says Seán, whose most recent work for the Guthrie was on its October show, “The Parchman Hour,” which is about the Freedom Riders in the Civil Rights Movement.

With Hero Props, he makes both theatre and storefront props. In 2013, Tommy Hilfiger commissioned him to cover Volkswagen Beetles in seashells for displays in New York City and San Francisco. It required a lot of seashells—and a surprisingly small saw to cut the cars in half.

Whether it's for shows or productions, using creativity for a prop is a perk of Seán's job.

“That's the fun of theatre,” says Chris, who saw the Beetles firsthand during a visit. “You get to work on some weird, fun things.”

Seán's had about every job title possible in the theatre business—artisan, carpenter, designer, fabricator, master—and each has come with “prop” in front of it. His most interesting title? Blood effect designer from his two stints with “Bengal Tiger.”

“I've met a lot of props people in my time in theatre but I've never seen someone as thorough as him, by any shape or form,” Chris says. “A good attitude and a friendly personality, too. That ‘Nebraska charm,’ if you will.”

His artistic mind made him succeed every step of the way, and now it's what he wants to focus on.

“So much of my career has been spent fulfilling the visions of other people,” he says, “and I'm starting to find out what I want to do with the skills that I have and the resources I have.”

“I'm so glad that we were able to put his talents to work with his artistic ability, and intellectually he's on top of things,” says Juli, now in her 30th year teaching at Doane. “It's wonderful that he could put all of that talent to work in the theatre world, where he loves to be.”

Settled in Minneapolis and a few years removed from the hustle and bustle of New York theatre, Seán's happy where he's at. Now he can sit back and watch the magic happen.

“What's fun for me now is to watch the people who, when I was there, and would be in these roles doing Shakespeare in the Park before they find any real fame, and then watching their careers take off,” says Seán, name-dropping Oscar Isaac (“Star Wars: The Force Awakens”) and Brian Tyree Henry (In FX's “Atlanta”) as two up-and-comers he worked with in New York.

Yes, he's plenty happy with his history.

And for the record, he's glad he didn't choose the acting path.

“If I wanted applause, I would've been an actor.”

—Seán McArdle '94

“If I wanted applause, I would've been an actor,” Seán says. “Last time I acted was at Doane and I got my fill because it just wasn't what I wanted to do. To be honest, I've worked a lot more regularly because of that decision.” ■

Faith in the future

It was a long and winding road for Josiah Oyebeun '18, but once he found Doane, he found freedom in his education.

By **Lucas Fahrer**

Josiah Oyebeun '18 has patience in spades.

Even when he found himself transferring between colleges or working 60 hours a week to pay for school, he just kept praying for a future that would keep his parents from the burden of paying for his education.

A future where he could run track to pay for college.

A future that prepared him for med school.

But that doesn't mean he's patient with everything. When he hears classmates make excuses for not having time to get homework done or sleep, it wears thin.

“When I was working until 12 a.m. and had to go the gym and then study, I had people telling me they couldn't get their homework done because they had a lot to do or they had to sleep,” Josiah says, laughing. “If you have to do something, then you just got to do it.”

He would know.

Josiah wouldn't be at Doane without a lot of long hours and his patient faith. It took a few years, but he finally found the future he was searching for since coming to the U.S. from St. Kitts and Nevis, a tiny island nation in

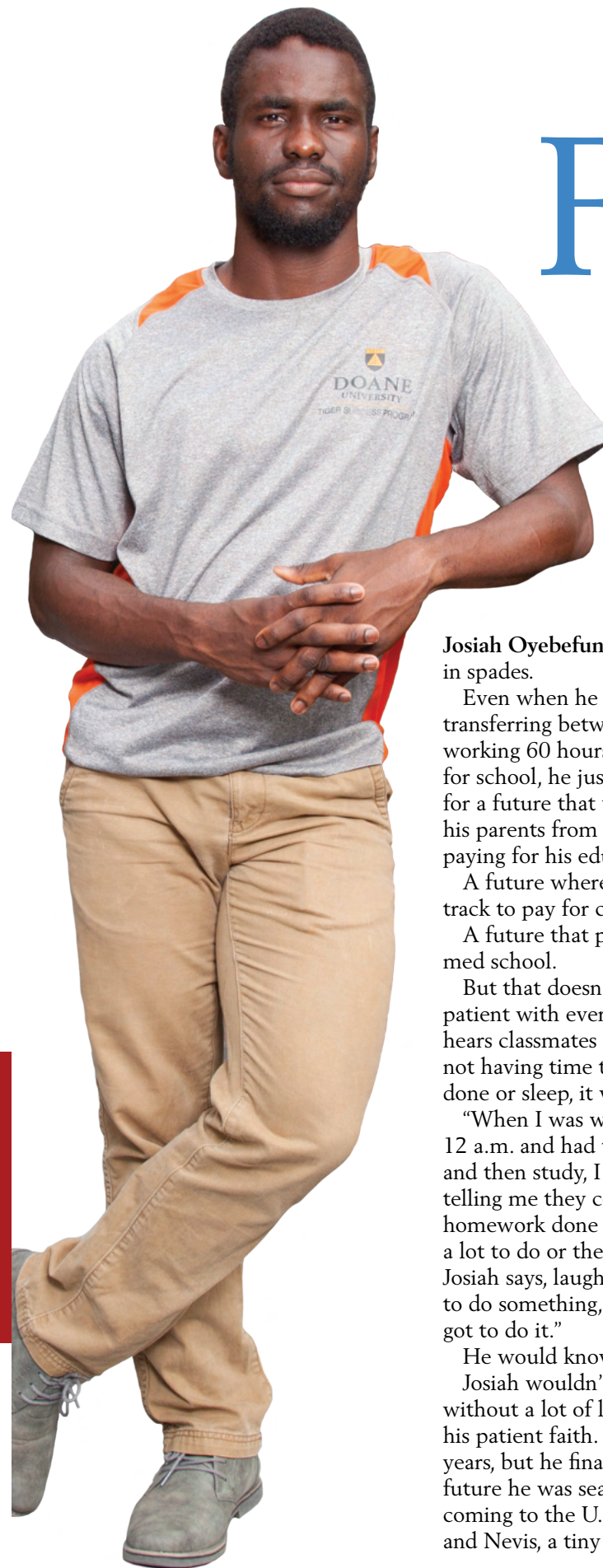
the Caribbean Sea.

His story is one of perseverance, persistence and, admittedly, lots of prayer.

“My faith was a thing that was instilled in me,” Josiah says. “It became something that I took on, and that's the biggest part of my life and the center of everything that I do. I see it as an opportunity to serve and that's the center of every Christian. Service is an expression of love.”

He is the son of two Christian missionaries, born Edikan Oyebeun in Lagos, Nigeria. (Josiah is his English name.) He and his siblings Samuel and Esther grew up on the move as their parents evangelized around Nigeria—building churches, establishing them and starting the cycle again.

Their work with the Redeemed Christian Church of God eventually led them from West Africa to the West Indies, a string of island nations separating the Caribbean from the Atlantic Ocean. The Oyebeuns continued “planting churches” in St. Kitts and Nevis while Josiah's father Zacchaeus worked as a science teacher and his mother Grace was a nurse. »



It was a humble upbringing but a rewarding one, too.

He remembers waking up at 6:30 a.m. every day for bible study with his family. Or the times he'd one-up his folks, waking them up even earlier to read scripture. Or how he began to pore over his father's science books, which stoked his curiosity for a career in health sciences.

"I remember my eighth birthday, I was reading his microbiology books with words I couldn't understand but it just seemed interesting," he recalls. "That's how I grew an appreciation for the human body and honestly that's the part of science I really enjoy."

It was then that Josiah found the gift that would connect him to his academic future. Escorting his brother to a track team tryout in Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis' capital, turned into an audition for Josiah, too.

"He goes to tryout for track practice and the coach asks 'Hey, are you here for training, too?' And I said sure," Josiah says. "That's how I started track inadvertently."

It turned into his ticket to the U.S.

By the time he was a senior at Washington Archibald High

▼ Josiah Oyebeun '18 (left) examines lab samples with his research mentor, biology professor Dr. Tessa Durham Brooks (right). *Andrew Mattson*



“

... I was reading his microbiology books with words I couldn't understand but it just seemed interesting.

-Josiah Oyebeun '18

”

School in Basseterre, he was a sprinter for the St. Kitts and Nevis national junior track team and trained at the nation's track complex with two future Doane students: 2012 and 2016 Olympian **Brijesh Lawrence '12** and **Michael Tross '18**, members of the senior team. Josiah started receiving offers to compete at American colleges, a common dream among his countrymen.

But what he envisioned for higher education and college sports was a far cry from reality.

His first school, Tabor College, wasn't a good fit. It's ironic, he says, that the lowest point of his faith came at the Christian college in Hillsboro, Kansas.

He transferred after one semester to nearby McPherson College, Tabor's rival in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference, for the 2014-15 academic year. But while he had a great relationship with the Bulldogs' track coaches, he found himself drowning in work to make ends meet.

His financial aid left him with a \$12,000 tab to pay, and to foot the bill, Josiah took a job in the cafeteria. He picked up shifts no one else wanted.

For three hours each morning before 9 a.m. class, he was working. He'd bolt from track practice every day to make his 5-11 p.m. evening shift. Since he missed the weightlifting portion of practice for work, he wound up working out by himself from 11 p.m. to midnight. Then his next six hours were split between homework and what little time was left for sleep. At 6 a.m., he was back to work.

When he didn't have track meets, he spent his weekends logging more hours; Saturdays were prime time to make money, with 10- and 12-hour shifts ripe for the taking.

On top of classes and competing in track, Josiah's average work week was 60 hours.

"Let's just say sleep is not something I really need anymore," says Josiah now, his head hanging with a haggard expression thinking of how he survived at McPherson. "When you have that kind of schedule, you learn to not procrastinate a single thing."

Every dollar went to pay for his education. And yet, sleepless nights and exhaustion weren't enough for his patience to waver. He just kept saying prayers to find an easier way, especially after McPherson announced a tuition increase for the 2015-16 academic year.

It paid off that winter. On the same day that he traveled to a track meet at Doane, an old friend—Brijesh—was in attendance to be honored for qualifying for the Olympics.

It was divine providence. Brijesh introduced Josiah to Tiger Track and Field Head Coach **Ed Fye '82**, and the rest is history. Better financial aid was available at Doane, so Josiah filed his transfer paperwork and arrived for the Fall 2015 semester.

Because of his scholarships, the trials and tribulations of his

college journey are over.

"When you don't have to worry about money, I don't need to take on a loan," Josiah says. "That freedom, it will help for years to come. It's been awesome."

The 60 hours he used to spend scraping together money for school he now spends on things that fulfill him.

In the last year, he's declared a major in biochemistry and a minor in Spanish. He's become a standout sprinter for Tiger Track and Field and joined Tiger Soccer as a walk-on this fall.

He works as a tutor for biology statistics and a peer mentor for underrepresented minorities in the science department. He's a student congress senator. He volunteers. He joined Alpha Pi Epsilon fraternity. He's part of Doane's Campus Crusade for Christ. For fun, he's taking French and German classes. (He's fluent in English and can also speak some Ibibio, a Nigerian dialect.)

Above all, he's heavily involved in undergraduate research in Doane's Center for Undergraduate Research on Biofilms, working with Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Tessa Durham Brooks on a vaccine project.

His work ethic and faith revealed themselves quickly. In just one summer working together, Josiah helped move the project forward with a detailed approach and the stick-to-itiveness that's gotten him to this point.

"He's always really, really positive," says Elkhorn native **Riley Jones '17**, Josiah's soccer teammate and a fellow undergraduate researcher in Dr. Brooks' summer research lab.

"He's hardworking, especially from a research standpoint." Now in the latter half of his college career, Josiah is channeling his energy toward a future in medical school. He wants to merge his love of science and service as a

missionary doctor, a job Dr. Brooks sees him uniquely qualified for.

"It's about appreciating other people's cultures and also thinking about their entire environment, thinking more holistically," she says. "I think that's Josiah's strength. He really sees the value in his research, we can have these discussions on faith and then he can nerd out on anatomy and physiology. I think that will make him very effective."

Through it all, Josiah has remained outstanding in the classroom and in competition. He's passed all of his classes with flying colors, receiving virtually all A's and can count the "B's on one hand."

On the track, he's been an all-conference performer and a conference champion in 100- and 400-meter relay teams. In his only season in orange and black, Josiah helped Tiger Track and Field sweep indoor and outdoor Great Plains Athletic Conference championships and contributed a first-place finish as a member of the Tiger men's outdoor 100-meter relay.

All because he finally received the financial aid he needed—and deserved.



▲ Oyebeun and Riley Jones '17 (right)—teammates on the Tiger Men's Soccer team—work alongside each other in a Lied Science and Mathematics Building lab. *Andrew Mattson*

class studying. I have freedom to make friendships. I can devote my time to causes I'm interested in. It also means my parents have some money in their pocket."

Josiah's work has helped his parents pay for his siblings to go to college. Samuel is a track student-athlete at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, and Esther studies at Conestoga College in Kitchener, Ontario.

This is the power of prayer, Josiah says. He remembers praying for specific scholarship amounts, even when he was low in Tabor or overworked in McPherson. Year after year, it was

“ It changes a person's life. My scholarships mean I can do those things that actually build toward my career ... ”

-Josiah Oyebeun '18

"It changes a person's life. My scholarships mean that instead of working, I can do those things that actually build toward my career," Josiah says, "like volunteering with the Food Bank. I can spend hours in between

prayer that he says led him here.

And patience, after all, is a virtue.

"I guess it has been a long road, but it's been a testament to God's faith," Josiah says. "When he says he will, he will." ■



ORANGE CRUSH

Senior linebacker Franklin Crawford III '17 powered Tiger defense with big hits.

by **Lucas Fahrer**

It was business as usual for **Franklin Crawford III '17**, but his big hit in Doane's season opener is the kind that gets a rise out of folks.

On the field, in the stands, and over social media.

In Tiger Football's first game of the season, a win over Friends (Kansas) University on Sept. 3, Frank made a statement. A loud one.

On Friends' second possession of the

game, the senior linebacker sprinted into the backfield unblocked with a clean angle on an unsuspecting ball carrier and flattened him onto the Al Papik Field turf for a six-yard loss.

Defensive back **Tariq Mustafaa '18** watched it all unfold. He was just as impressed by his teammate's violent hit as the tailback's ability to not fumble.

"I had a clear shot at him," the junior says. "I was like 'Oh my goodness.

How did he hold onto that ball? I don't understand.'"

Head Coach **Matt Franzen '94**, standing on the sidelines, heard the crash.

"That play shows you his sheer power," the 10th year coach says of Frank. "He'd come through the line and was basically making a play on the ball. He tackled the ball carrier violently and destroyed the blocker all in one play." »

▲ Senior linebacker Franklin Crawford III '17 finished the 2016 Tiger Football season with 7.5 sacks. *Andrew Mattson*



◀ Senior linebacker Frank Crawford.
Andrew Mattson

“

He's a guy that plays on emotion. He's not afraid to trash talk a little bit. ... I think every team needs a few guys who're going to push the envelope a little bit.

-Matt Franzen

”

After the Tigers finished off the 45-21 victory, Doane Athletics' official Twitter account tweeted "Tackle of the game? Don't let Frank through unblocked!" with a six-second video clip of the play. It garnered 44 retweets and 86 likes, showing Frank snuffing the play out in three seconds flat to the roar of the home crowd.

"I like contact a lot. I like hitting," Frank says through a smile. "I love it."

It was the kind of hit that can set the tone for an entire season, and that's the mark the Dallas-area senior wants to make on this team: leaving nothing up to chance in search of a Great Plains Athletic Conference championship.

"We all want the same thing: A ring. We all know it takes sacrifice to get to it," Frank says. "All the seniors are willing to do what we need to do to get there, regardless of what happens."

The Mesquite, Texas, native won a starting job midway through his freshman season and hasn't let go, quickly building a reputation as a big hitter.

He's been an impact performer during the Tigers' 9-2 season, which included a trip to the NAIA National Playoffs.

Roaming the perimeter from his inside linebacker spot, Frank finished the season second on the team in sacks (7.5), third in tackles for loss (11.5) and tied for eighth in tackles (31).

"He has a hard, hard head on the field," Franzen says. "The biggest thing is his physicality, but he's also got good speed and athleticism."

Frank's an enforcer. He's been especially effective at blowing up plays behind the line of scrimmage, even after transitioning from defensive end to linebacker midway through his career. In the last two seasons combined (both at linebacker), his 19 tackles for loss have turned into more than 100 negative yards for opposing offenses.

The scouting report on the 6-foot, 220-pounder shows he's fast enough to run past offensive linemen and big enough to outmuscle skill players in coverage or the open field. But power is his calling card.

"He's definitely one of our harder hitters on defense. That's pretty blatant," Tariq says. "He's got his instincts. When he sees something, he goes."

It all comes from a lifetime of playing football. Frank's been putting on pads ever since elementary school, and he's never lost his passion for it. Growing up in the heart of Texas, football became a way of life.

"You've got your family, school and then football," says Tariq, who grew up 15 minutes away from Mesquite in Cedar Hill, Texas.

In high school, Frank competed in Class 5A, the second-highest classification in the state. He's one of several college football players to come out of Poteet High School; in his graduating class alone, seven players signed with NCAA Division I schools. Frank even played with Malik Jefferson, a 2015 All-Big 12 performer and freshman All-American at the University of Texas at Austin.

Football is his constant.

"In Texas, football is kind of like religion," Frank says. "I'm one of those

people, I was raised that once you do something, you stick with it. You don't quit. Football became a part of me. It's a stress reliever. That's something I can go to if I'm down."

He started mulling his own offers to play in college as a senior. A few schools in Texas recruited him, but when Doane coaches came to Poteet to visit with players, his interest shifted. A campus visit and conversation with Franzen swayed him to head north, but he was also looking for a change of scenery from inner-city Dallas.

"That was my big thing, one of my big ways to get out of Dallas," Frank says. "I use sports as a vehicle."

Frank has had to grow on and off the field since he arrived at Doane, adjusting from urban life in the Dallas suburbs to rural Nebraska. Before he could compete for the Tigers, he had to spend some time getting academically eligible. On the field, he was a self-proclaimed "hot head," putting himself in some tense run-ins with opponents.

Over the years, though, Franzen watched a student-athlete take "leaps and bounds" forward.

"He's really learned to keep his composure and harness his energy to help him play better," Franzen says. "That's part of growing up."

His personal development has coincided with a rise to prominence for Tiger Football. Doane is 22-4 in its last 26 games—including a 7-4 mark against ranked teams—beginning with a four-game winning streak to end the 2014 season. The Tigers kept winning in 2015, finishing with the program's best win total (9-2) since 1997 and making it to the first round of the NAIA playoffs. This year's 9-1 regular season record had the team hosting its first playoff game since 1997 and ranked 7th nationally.

Frank's been a starter for some of the program's biggest moments in recent history. Upsetting No. 1 Morningside in November 2014. Making it to the playoffs for the first time since 1999. Finishing 2015 ranked in the NAIA's

Top 10 and climbing the polls to No. 3 in 2016.

"I credit our kids for sticking with the program and the leadership that we had on that 2014 team with that year's seniors," Franzen says of the program's success. "That followed through to last season, but the leadership in this year's group is every bit as strong as last year."

Now Frank is part of that core.

"He's a guy that plays on his emotion. He's not afraid to trash talk a little bit. That's part of who he is," Franzen says. "For our team, that's great. I think every team needs a few guys who're going to push the envelope a little bit, and I think that makes our entire team a little more competitive."

Frank plays inspired because he doesn't forget where he came from. His parents, sister and grandparents are his biggest fans, and they host watch parties of Doane's football webcasts back home in Dallas.

"I feel like I do it for them. They call me before every game, because they're

so far away they can't be here, and wish me luck," Frank says. "As soon as the game ends, they call me and say you did good and all this and that. I love it."

When Commencement rolls around, Frank will become the first member of his family to graduate from college. He's pursuing his bachelor's in physical education with an emphasis in fitness management and a business minor, a blend of studies he hopes to turn into a career in teaching and coaching.

"I would love to coach. That would be great seeing how some of these coaches up here have helped me out and changed my life," Frank says. "I would love to do that to help somebody else. You never know what somebody's background could be, and that'd be great if I can help them pursue what they want to."

But before he turns the calendar to 2017, his focus was on finishing strong with his teammates.

"You never get complacent. You've always got to be ready for more."

Day by day and hit by hit. ■



▶ Frank Crawford exchanges words with a Hastings player during Doane's Homecoming football game on Oct. 15th. The Tigers went on to beat the Broncos 27-19. *Tiger Athletics*

2015-16 DOANE TIGERS SPRING SPORTS

BASEBALL

The baseball team finished the season with an even .500 winning percentage, posting a 22-22 overall record. The Tigers, however, were streaky throughout the season as signified by their final stretch, winning four straight before dropping four of five to end the year. Despite the up and down play and 7-13 conference mark, Doane held victories over each of the top four teams in the Great Plains Athletic Conference in 2016.

Five players received All-GPAC honors for the season. **Adam Touhey '16** (San Tan Valley, Arizona; pictured right) and **Manny Armendariz '19** (Baldwin Park, California) received second-team honors. Honorable mention recognition went to **Nathan Sliva '19** (Columbus), **Dylan Matthews '16** (Lincoln) and **Zach Jensen '16** (Exeter).

During the offseason, Head Coach Jeremy Jorgensen stepped down to move with his wife to Florida. Jorgensen left Tiger Baseball as its all-time winningest coach, finishing his tenure with a 272-183 overall record (a .597 winning percentage) and 121-73 GPAC mark (.624) with three GPAC championships and the Tigers' first three NAIA National Tournament appearances.

Taking the reins is longtime assistant Josh Olthmans. He returns to the Tigers after one year as the head coach at Peru State where he led the Bobcats to a 21-win season.

SOFTBALL

The Tigers returned to the NAIA National Championship Opening Round in 2016 with a runner-up finish in the conference tournament. Doane finished the season 33-16 overall and 17-4 in the GPAC.

The team had an impressive showing



at the national tournament despite a 1-2 record. Doane had No. 1 Oklahoma City on the ropes before a late error led to a 2-1 loss. The following day, Tiger Softball made history. Doane topped No. 25 Friends (Kansas) 1-0 in eight innings but came up short 1-0 against No. 20 Houston-Victoria in an NAIA Championship-record 18 innings.

Eight student-athletes received All-GPAC honors after the 2016 campaign. Receiving first-team honors were **Sam Valadez '17** (Covina, California), **Jordan Van Roy '19** (Elkhorn), **Kelsey Bernhardt '17** (Thornton, Colorado) and **Ellie Doughty '16** (Omaha; pictured left). **Nicole Fernandez '18** (San Diego) and **Heather Ramirez '17** (Covina, California) were named to the second-team with **Carly Shniderson '19** (Overland Park, Kansas) and **Danielle Morrow '16** (Carson City, Nevada) receiving honorable mention.

Following the season, the Tiger coaching staff was named the National Fastpitch Coaches Association's Central Region Coaching Staff of the Year.

GOLF

The men's golf team wrapped up the 2015-16 season with a third-place finish in the GPAC Championship meet. The Tigers shot a four-round total of 1,214, finishing 18 strokes behind Northwestern (Iowa) for the team title.

Mack Alspaugh '18 (McCook; pictured right) led the Tigers on the season and finished third overall, five shots off the lead. **Jared Tedesco '16** (Castle Rock, Colorado) and **Spencer Lindahl '16** (Lincoln) finished 15th and 17th, respectively, at the conference championship. The trio went on to earn All-GPAC honors for their performance during the season.

Alspaugh led the Tigers in scoring with an average score of 76.35 with six top-10 finishes in nine meets. Lindahl averaged a 77.24 and **Jonas Christensen '16** (York) posted a 77.71 average while playing in nine events.

The women's golf team had a young and fairly inexperienced team in 2015-16, showing improvement over the course of the season. The Tigers placed 10th in the GPAC Championship meet.

Sarah Vaughn '19 (Grand Island; pictured right) placed 25th at the conference meet and led the team with the low-round average of 91.54. **Laura Barks '16** (Bennington) took 35th in the GPAC meet and averaged 98.25 strokes while **Mikayla Bankson '18** (Hordville)



averaged a 95.54 on the season and placed 38th at the conference meet. The average scorers were career-best season averages for Barks and Bankson.

The conference championship meet in 2016-17 for men's and women's teams will change to a pair of neutral site two-day meets and combine the four-round total for the champion. Previously, four separate rounds have been held on a home course of a GPAC team and the four rounds were combined to determine the champion.

OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

It may seem like a broken record when talking about Doane track and field but, as anyone will tell you, winning never gets old. The Tigers took home outdoor conference championships—hosted by Hastings College—once again in 2016.

Kale Wolken '16 (Tecumseh; pictured left) and **Kaitlin Bradley '17** (Crete) were named the GPAC Outstanding Performers of the Meet as the top point scorers for the men's and women's meets, respectively.

At the NAIA National meet, Wolken broke a 20-year-old record in the decathlon as he posted 7,830 points and qualified for the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in July. His efforts garnered him the NAIA Outdoor Outstanding Performance of the Meet for the second straight year. He was also named the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association's NAIA Field Athlete-of-the-Year.

Joining Wolken atop the championship podium were two teammates from the women's team. »





Marissa DeWispelare '17 (David City; pictured above) broke the school record on her way to a national championship performance in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (10:26.64). **Tameca Wallace '17** (Mandeville, Jamaica) claimed the 2016 sweep in triple jump, winning the outdoor title (39-11.25) after claiming the indoor title in March.

After the season, the Omaha World-Herald named Wolken its Midlands College Male Athlete of the Year. The Lincoln Journal Star named Wolken and DeWispelare its State College Athletes of the Year. DeWispelare also garnered the NAIA A.O. Duer Scholarship Award as the top junior scholar-athlete in the country, becoming the first Tiger student-athlete to receive the honor since 2003.

TENNIS

The tennis teams accomplished a lot during the spring. With former coach Pete Fiumefreddo stepping down before GPAC play began, the teams came together and each placed third in the conference. The men advanced to the GPAC Tournament Championship match while the women qualified for the semifinals.

On the men's side, four singles players and two doubles teams earned All-GPAC honors. **Sebastian Gardefjord '16** (Stockholm, Sweden) went 6-6 overall and 3-2 in the GPAC in No. 1 singles while **Kris Kiland '17** (Prince George, British Columbia; pictured right) was 12-4 overall and 4-1 in the GPAC at No. 2 singles. The duo teamed up for a 4-1 conference record at No. 1 doubles.

Ignacio Morell '19 (Madrid, Spain)

posted an 8-7 record and 3-2 GPAC mark in his rookie campaign at No. 3 singles. **Aaron Cook '17** (Lincoln) went 7-7 overall and 2-2 in the GPAC at No. 4 singles. Cook teamed with **Grayson McCartney '19** (Papillion) to go 4-1 in the GPAC at No. 2 doubles.

Kiland added a prestigious academic honor to his list, becoming the first Tiger Tennis student-athlete to be named a College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-American.

For the women, three singles players and one doubles team received All-GPAC recognition. **Ashley Zaeske '19** (Westminster, Colorado) posted an 11-6 record overall and 6-2 mark in the GPAC at No. 2 singles. **Cheyanna Kempel '17** (Lincoln; pictured left) went 9-7 overall and 4-3 in conference at No. 4 singles while **Morgan Meyer '18** (York) was 11-6 overall and 6-1 in the GPAC at No. 5 singles. Meyer teamed with **Ellie Bender '18** (Steamboat Springs, Colorado) to go 9-6 at No. 2 doubles with a 5-2 conference mark. ■



Keeping it in the

family

For legacy families, the new Future Tigers Program engages the next generation.

They were both thinking it, but **Preston '93** and **Nicole Kramer '95 Renshaw** didn't want to be pushy when their oldest started looking at colleges.

There are a lot of schools out there to choose from, Preston said, but there's only one Doane.

He'd heard as much from his own father, **Jamie Renshaw '68**, who chose the Tigers as a student-athlete coming out of McCook. His experience was such a strong endorsement that three of his children—Preston, **Amanda Renshaw McKinney '98** and **Alex Renshaw '08**—also chose Doane.

Their respective experiences groomed them for successful careers.

For Preston, Doane gave him the chance to stay involved in everything he loved doing: competing in football and track, building brotherhood through Sigma Phi Theta fraternity, serving with student congress and even playing in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

When he was weighing his own college options as a senior at Odell High School (now Diller-Odell), he considered Doane as well as Kansas State University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. But where he saw opportunities to continue following his many passions at Doane, he saw students making sacrifices at the bigger state schools.

"They give up a lot—

music, sports, those things they so much enjoyed—and get so focused on their career that they really lose that whole journey in life," says Preston, now a doctor of medicine and chief medical officer at Avera Health's headquarters in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. "Life is so much more than just your career. It's all of those other things that you enjoy in your life that make you more fulfilled as a person. That's what Doane was able to offer all of us."

So when **Zachary Renshaw '20** decided that Doane was the best fit, his parents breathed a deep, contented sigh of relief. The anxiety of having their first child leave for college waned

when they knew of the experience and support he'd be getting in Crete.

"We wanted him to find that answer himself, but when he made that decision, the weight of the world comes off of you," Preston says. "We've known the experience that all of us had collectively at Doane. When you know that and understand that, it makes these type of decisions so much easier."

It's comfort in knowing their son also made a sound investment in his college years. That's what Doane wants to bring to other families like the Renshaws, who have a tradition of passing on a Doane education from generation to generation.

The Future Tigers Program is a joint effort by the university's Alumni and Admission Offices to keep Doane in the family—recruiting new students who have a parent, aunt, uncle, cousin, grandparent or any other relative that graduated from Doane. By enrolling, these potential future Tigers will receive annual gifts from Doane and their information will be automatically shared with Doane's admissions team.

It's how you can share your love of Doane and keep your alma mater in the conversation.

After all, it was the familiarity with his parents' and grandparents' alma mater that made the biggest difference for Zachary. »

▲ Nicole Kramer Renshaw '95 (left) and Preston Renshaw '93 stand with their son Zachary Renshaw '20 (center) after a home game. *Aspen Green*



Doane was always a topic of conversation, and when he visited the Crete campus with his parents, he could tell it was like home. They just kept bumping into faculty, staff and coaches that Preston and Nicole knew from their time as students.

“That camaraderie—how they still know everyone and how everyone that works here either was from here or they’ve fell in love with it so much that they’ve been here so long—is how I knew it was going to be the right pick for me,” Zachary says.

He’s in just his first semester at Doane and still undecided on a major. He wants to take advantage of Doane’s liberal arts education—that “broad base” of learning his grandpa Jamie told him about—to find his niche. Plus, he’s busy suiting up for the same Tiger Football program as his dad and learning from coaches **Matt Franzen ’94** and **Chris Bessler ’95**, his dad’s college teammates.

Plus, he’s at Doane, which his family has come to love and embrace.

“When I was offered by Doane to play football, I jumped at the opportunity immediately because I’m going to the college that I already love but I get to play football, which I also love to do,” Zachary says. “It was an added bonus. It’s been a wonderful opportunity.” ■



Introducing Assistant Alumni Director Andrea Johnson ’10

You could say I was destined to be a Doane Tiger.

I grew up a block away from Doane’s Crete campus. My dad, Jim Johnson, was a well-respected and longtime math professor here, and Doane felt like another home. As a kid, the campus was a big playground—each building on campus a different adventure and each office a new place of wonder. (Bonus points if you could find the office with candy for the taking!)

As a Doane student, I met people that moved to Crete from all over the United States and it broadened my worldview. Some of these students had different religions or looked different than me. They were interested in subjects I had never considered and were all thoughtful, considerate and authentic. Faculty would be quick to share their passions, and were consistently patient and gracious with my questions. For as knowledgeable and busy as they

were, they took time to get to know me. They truly cared to help me on my life’s path.

To this day, I am grateful for my Doane education. It has served me well time and time again. I am excited to join **Anne Golden Ziola ’04, ’10A**, director of alumni relations, in the Alumni Office as we work to celebrate the memories of yesterday and connect alumni to the Doane of today and tomorrow!

We have many new opportunities for you to connect to your alma mater, including the Future Tigers Program, the Social Media Ambassador volunteer program and special opportunities to learn more about the exciting research Doane professors and students are working on every day.

You know firsthand the power of a Doane education. I invite you to join us this year and share your time, talent and treasure to further the goals of Doane University.

-Andrea

Andrea Johnson can be contacted at andrea.johnson@doane.edu.

2016 ALUMNI AWARDS











1. **Platt Music Award** Fredrick C. Ritter ’78
2. **Young Alumni Award** India M. Williams ’07
3. **Honor D Award** Craig J. Coppersmith ’85
4. **Exceptional Service Award**
John ’80 and Leslie Higgins ’80 Allbery
5. **Paul Kersenbrock Humanitarian Award**
John R. Lothrop ’68
6. **Alumni Educator of the Year Award**
Dr. Brenda Neumon Lewis ’70
7. **President’s Award for Leadership**
Ruth Ross Olsen ’53
8. **Doane Builder Award** - Patricia Mazanec Mahar ’67
9. Doane President Dr. Jacque Carter (fourth from right) listens to a speaker at the Alumni Awards Banquet during 2016 Homecoming..



Trustee Spotlight

Lois Chab Weyers ’67

Like so many, Lois Chab Weyers ’67 came to Doane for a small-campus community in a beautiful setting. What she came away with was a life-changing experience and a newfound confidence, setting her on a trajectory for a successful career in education. Hailing from neighboring Wilber, Weyers used her elementary education major and minors in English and music to impact the lives of thousands of students across the country. Weyers was elected to the Doane Board of Trustees in 2004 and has had a large role in moving Doane forward.

What have been the most gratifying things about being a Doane board member?

The most gratifying thing about being on the board is coming back to campus. It gives me a good feeling to think that maybe in some small way I have helped young adults become viable members of the community and maybe lifelong learners that will make important contributions to the world. The students I meet always impress me. They seem to display poise and are able to express themselves eloquently. They also seem so excited about the many things in which they are involved.

I also feel good about the many programs offered on the campuses of Omaha, Lincoln and Grand Island. This gives adults of all ages an opportunity to further their education or perhaps help them change their career path. Adult education and the online classes offered fill a need for more people to help achieve their dreams.

It was gratifying and insightful to be on the board as we navigated through tremendous change. Doane is always changing, but the pace of change at Doane intensified during the past ten years involving infrastructure, curriculum, expansion, international reach and our name change from college to university.

What do you see in Doane’s future?

I feel that the future for Doane is very bright. The high caliber of students that Doane attracts will continue the legacy. The accomplished faculty we have here will continue to mold the students. The staff and administration has provided the framework for the faculty and students to work and grow. Our president continues to have ideas to inspire all and he is willing and able to make the hard decisions necessary for the good of the system.

With all the changes that Doane has seen in the past few years, what excites or concerns you most?

In the future, the prospect of the Crete campus possibly growing to 2,000 students and more would be very exciting. Of course there would be many changes necessary to make that happen, but with that number of students, the possibilities available to the students would be tremendous.

What has been your proudest moment as an alumna?

I am proud of the many successful people the students of Doane have become. I believe they have and will make the world a better place. ■

FUTURE TIGERS PROGRAM

It’s never too early to build Doane pride!
doane.edu/future-tigers



class notes

Send us your news!

High-resolution digital or printed photos are welcomed and will be returned, if requested.

Please note there may be a time delay between receipt of your news item and when it appears in the magazine.

Submit information:

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Alumni Designations

A Administrative arts and management master's program

C Counseling master's program

E Education masters' and advanced degree programs

G Grand Island campus bachelors' programs

L Lincoln campus bachelors' programs

O Omaha campus bachelors' programs

V5 U.S. Navy and Marine Corps officer training in World War II

V12 U.S. Navy and Marine Corps officer training in World War II

Graduates without a letter designation are alumni of Doane's College of Arts and Sciences in Crete.

Half-Century

Ed A. Babka V5, Dubuque, Iowa, and his wife Shirley were selected for the 2015 First Citizen of Dubuque, a special honor awarded once a year to people who exemplify good citizenship in their community. Ed parlayed a visionary publishing dream into the largest national weekly newspaper catering to collectors and buyers of antiques. Ed passed away on June 20.

Edna Reeder Emerson '42, North Haverhill, New Hampshire, was born on Christmas Day in 1916, and is looking forward to her 100th birthday.

Panagiota "Pat" Megas Taylor '48, Concord, California, received an 11,000-hour pin for volunteer service at John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek, where she has volunteered for more than 20 years. The hours are a combination of general office work and sewing for heart patients and the neonatal nursery.

1960s

Donald E. Siecke '61, Castle Rock, Colorado, mourned the death of his wife, Jean Ann, on Feb. 17.

Fred E. Davis '69, Richton Park, Illinois, was inducted into the University of Nebraska Hall of Fame on Sept. 9.

1970s

Gretchen Lerner Freeman '75, McMinnville, Oregon, recently moved from Salt Lake City, Utah, to Oregon. She and her husband Mike built their retirement home to enjoy the Pinot Noir wine country. Gretchen was a 1975 Fulbright scholar.

Joan Lawrence Welker '75, Mill Hall, Pennsylvania, retired

Dec. 23, 2015, after spending 25 years as the director of career services at Lock Haven University.

Larry '76 and Kathryn Katt '77 Decker, Minneapolis, lived in Grand Island for 35 years before retiring from music education. They now split their time between Minnesota's Twin Cities area and Windermere, Florida. Larry enjoys working at Disney when in Florida.

1 Steven R. Coffin '77, Carolina Beach, North Carolina, was named the director of business development at Tayloe Gray Kristof, a full service ad agency and digital technology firm in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Thomas H. Dickey '78, Albion, was named The Grand Island Independent's 2016 Girls Coach of the Year after his teams won back-to-back cross country state championships in 2014 and 2015. Thomas is a fifth grade teacher at Boone Central Elementary School and cross country coach at Boone Central/Newman Grove High School.

Kevin M. Fane '78, Morris, Illinois, is an associate tennis professional.

1980s

Rocky C. Weber '82, Lincoln, is president and general counsel to the Nebraska Cooperative Council Board of Directors. Rocky is a member of the legal tax and accounting section of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives and the Nebraska State Bar Association and a lifetime fellow of the Nebraska State Bar Foundation. He's also a managing partner of the law firm of Crosby Guenzel LLP.

Mary "Meg" Erickson Wilson '82, Great Bend, Kansas, and her husband Chuck are United Way of

Central Kansas campaign co-chairpersons for 2017. Meg has served as a teacher and junior/senior high school principal for nearly 35 years. In July 2016 she began providing administrative services at Westside High School at the Larned Juvenile Correctional Facility for SHESC.

Michael E. Maloley '83, Lexington, owner of MRK, Inc., was featured in the November 2016 issue of Nebraska Trucker magazine. MRK is a Lexington-based livestock and feed hauler and truck wash operator.

Dr. Terri J. Vrtiska '83, Rochester, Minnesota, was a recipient of the 2016 Radiological Society of North America Honored Educator Award. The RSNA is an international society of radiologists, medical physicists and other medical professionals with more than 54,000 members from 136 countries. The award recognized her dedication to furthering the profession of radiology and commitment to radiology education by delivering high-quality educational content for RSNA endeavors.

2 Donald '84 and Joni Apley '84 Steffensmeier, Omaha, are proud grandparents to Walter Daniel Stork born in April.

Vickie Colgrove Kauffold '86, Wahoo, accepted a position in July as administrator of curriculum standards and assessments with the Archdiocese of Omaha Catholic Schools Office, which serves the educational needs of all 70 Catholic schools in the area.

Paula Sinnett-Smith '89, Omaha, graduated in May from the College of St. Mary in Omaha with a master's degree in education. She is

employed at Lewis & Clark Middle School as a seventh and eighth grade language and literature teacher.

1990s

Sandra L. Hilsabeck '93L, Lincoln, has written three devotional story books since retiring as Nebraska Wesleyan University's head tennis coach in 2003. "One Man and One Woman" was published in 2005, "Drop Shot: Life Lessons Learned on the Rectangle" was published in 2008 and "Ready or Not: 10 Reasons to Love Your Baby" was published in 2015.

Janelle Montoya Quick '95, Pueblo, Colorado, joined the Pueblo Economic Development Corporation as its mission coordinator. She will be working with PEDCO membership and marketing and supporting the leadership team and board of directors in attracting, retaining and expanding primary jobs in Pueblo.

Ryan C. Specht '95, '10E, Columbus, was inducted into the 2016 Lakeview High School Hall of Fame in August. Inductees were recognized at halftime during a home football game and on a plaque on the Wall of Fame inside the school. Ryan participated in seven sports seasons, lettered six times, three all-conference football selections and an honorable mention All-American nod.

M. Eileen Dubas Dakan '96, Kearney, was selected as the new executive director of the United Way of the Kearney Area.

Deborah S. Hoffman '96E, Norfolk, retired at the end of the 2015-16 school year after teaching at Washington Elementary in Norfolk for 24 years.

Nichole Schlagel Randazzo '96, Fort Collins, Colorado, became interim principal at Van Buren Elementary School on July 1.

Traci Hines Skalberg '97, Grand Island, was selected as The Grand Island Independent's 2014 Woman of the Year for her efforts as executive director of the Grand Island Education Foundation, impacting children throughout Grand Island Public Schools and because of her instrumental role in the "Restoring a Masterpiece" renovation project for the high school auditorium.

Brad J. Feeken '98, '05E, Gretna, received the Nebraska Coaches Association 2015-16 Coach of the Year Award for boys basketball. He and **William M. Heard '98** coached the Gretna High School boys team to a Class B state championship.

3 Tica F. Perri '98, Omaha, and **Carrie Ann Zochol Buchanan '95** sing in a group called The Shineys. They play in wineries in Omaha and Iowa as well as Doane Homecoming events. Tica also belongs to a group called The Benson Songwriters Exchange. Look for her solo work by searching "Tica Felise" on Facebook.

Jeffery '98 and Kristine Rempe '97 Zucker, Lincoln, welcomed a baby boy, Joseph David, on May 28.

Dr. Amanda Renshaw McKinney '98, Beatrice, accepted the position of director of curriculum for health professions at Doane. Amanda will develop and teach lifestyle medicine courses.

Brian L. Jackson '99L, Lincoln, assistant chief of the Lincoln Police Department, was appointed interim chief until a permanent replacement was hired.

Cindy M. Vodicka '99, '01E, '11E, Lincoln, was named principal at the Donald D. Sherrill Education Center at Lincoln Public Schools.

2000s

Eric J. Cantrell '00, Miami, Florida, is the North America sales manager for Medialon Division at Barco.

Charla S. Brant '01E, Hastings, was named Hastings Public Schools Educator of the Year for 2016.

Daniel D. Kauk '01, '08E, '14E, Bellevue, is the new principal at Rumsey Station Elementary School in the Papillion La Vista Community Schools system. He and his wife **Sarah Davis Kauk '04**, a nurse with Hillcrest Health Services, have four children.

Corbin Tobey Davis '02, Aurora, Colorado, is the new lead pastor of Parkview Congregational Church UCC.

Meagan Corkern Hoefs '02, '05E, Lincoln, along with her husband Nicholas and daughter Maddie would like to introduce Genevieve Freyja Hoefs. "Evee" was born Sept. 2.

4 Anthony R. Mann '02, Elkhorn, and his wife Sandy welcomed a new baby girl, Stella Josephine, on June 23. She joins big sister Lyanna.

R. Ruth Roose '02E, Omaha, retired on Aug. 12, five days shy of an 18-year career as an education administrator with Omaha Home for Boys.

Julie E. Hamm '03E, Norfolk, retired from teaching at Norfolk Public Schools at the end of the 2015-16 school year.

Matthew D. Mueller '03, Olathe, Kansas, was hired as a commercial lender at First National Bank in Fremont.

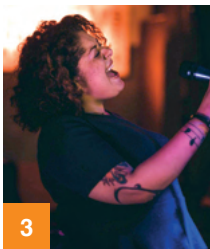
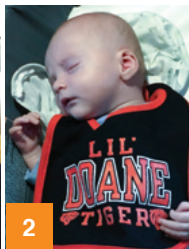
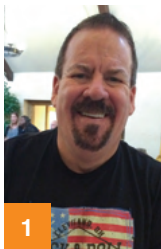
Jeremy A. Rose '03, Windsor, Colorado, was featured in an article about balancing his military career and civilian law practice.

Eric L. Stearns '03, Lincoln, ceramics professor at Doane, showed his work in July 2016 at Meadowlark Gallery in Grant.

Penny Couch Havelka '04, Mead, and her husband Shawn welcomed a son, Rhett Michael Daniel Havelka, who was born Aug. 24.

Malia R. Mann '04, Edinboro, Pennsylvania, received her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Gannon University on May 7.

Dr. Jarrod R. McAlevy '04, Plattsmouth, owns the Syracuse Dental Clinic. Jarrod attended the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Dentistry where he received a prestigious scholarship from the United States Air Force. He graduated in 2008 and was accepted into an Advanced Education in General Dentistry Residency program at Offutt Air Force Base where he received the Dentist of the Year Award three times in eight years. Jarrod, his wife **Amanda Smith '06 McAlevy** and their daughter Alexis eventually plan to move to Syracuse. »



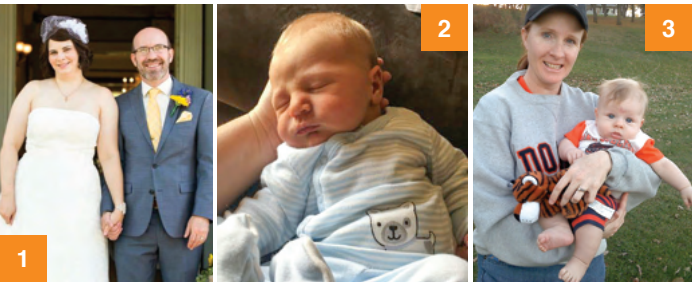
Colt R. Nelms '04, San Juan Capistrano, California, is an acute care specialist for Medline Industries.

1 Virginia L. Bennett '04, Denver, married Daniel Griebenaw on May 25, 2015. Virginia is an assistant teacher at Primrose School of Centennial.

Timothy M. McArdle '04, Lincoln, is a Technical Analyst III at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska.

2 Natalie Wieland Shirley '04, Elkhorn, and her husband Brandon welcomed a son, Kyler Nelson, born April 19.

3 Kaylene Vieselmeyer Hawkins '05, Akron, Iowa, and her husband Travis welcomed a baby boy, Richard Andrew, on July 31, 2015.



Kelly A. Lewis '05, '08E, Rootstown, Ohio, completed her doctorate in educational psychology from Kent State University on May 13. She teaches in the education department at Hiram College.

4 Natalie M. Schneider '05, Ord, joined the U.S. Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team for the Rio Paralympic Games. She and her team defeated Germany to win the gold medal in September. Their win was part of a Team USA sweep of gold medals in men's and women's basketball in both the Olympics and Paralympics.

Jill Sykes Shea '05E, '15E, Sterling, accepted the position of student services specialist at Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools. Previously, she was a Pre K-12

school counselor and English teacher at Sterling Public Schools for 18 years.

5 Shane '06 and Callie Brown '08 Barnes welcomed their fourth child, Jordan, in July. Older siblings include Alek, Aubree and Jaxon.

6 Griffin '06 and Amanda Bennett '06 Lothrop, Chicago, welcomed Bernadette Abigail on April 7. She joins big sister Annabelle.

7 Brandi Kempf Hayes '06, Eagle, and her husband Philip welcomed a daughter, Lennox Ann, on March 14.

Erica Dawson Robbins '06, '10A, Lincoln, works at Bryan Health as senior IT project manager.

Jarred J. Royal '06, Wahoo, is the principal at Wahoo High School.

Erica P. Heiden '07, Omaha, is a marketing strategist at Ervin & Smith, a digital marketing agency.

Emily E. Jordening '07, married Henning Brandt and lives in Germany with their daughter Louisa.

Amy E. Sherwood '07, Buffalo, Wyoming, is the Ethiopia team leader at Nuru International.

India M. Williams '07, Kansas City, Missouri, is the KIPP Through College Director in Kansas City. KTC is part of KIPP, which aims to eliminate the opportunity gap between students from high- and low-income communities. India also received the 2016 Doane Young Alumni Award during Homecoming this year.

Donald A. Adetoye '08, Delray Beach, Florida, is an account development manager at Ion Interactive.

Kelcey Zutavern Buck '08, Lincoln, is a communications associate at the University of

Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders.

Lucas J. Graff '08, Las Vegas, is the student conduct coordinator at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Tom '08 and Kelly Spencer '09, '11E Krings, Denver, are the proud parents of a daughter, Cecilia, born on June 10, 2016. Cecilia joins big brother Joey.

Nancy A. McConkey '08A, Lincoln, is an operations manager at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Tyler M. Rains '08L, Lincoln, joined Union Bank & Trust as a construction and residential real estate lender.

Gage J. Stermensky II '08L, Scottsbluff, is an adjunct faculty member for Bellevue University.

John R. Wiedeman '08, '11E, '16E, Gering, is the new principal at Northfield Elementary School after teaching elementary school in Lincoln for the last eight years. John and his wife **Krista McKeone Wiedeman '06, '10E** have three boys: Benson, Maddox and Taysom.

8 Zachary L. Blackman '09, Falls City, and Bethany Smith were married on April 23.

Beau '09 and Christa Filtcroft '09 Christ moved to South Carolina where Beau is an assistant professor of computer science at Wofford College in Spartanburg, and Christa is a visiting assistant professor of psychology at Hamilton College.

Erik W. Clarke '09, Lawrence, Kansas, entered the final year of his counseling psychology doctoral program and worked last summer for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in St. Louis.

9 Rebecca Brewer Hansmeyer '09, Hallam, and her husband Louie are proud to announce the arrival of Charles Maxwell, born March 15.

Jason P. Shanahan '09E, Waverly, was promoted to principal at Irving Middle School in Lincoln.

2010s

10 Michelle L. Braden '10, Kearney, married Aaron C. Blackman on July 30.

Mallory K. Dimitt '10, Parker, Colorado, married John DeVol on June 4.

11 Kara Maize Hilzer '10, '13E, Lincoln, and her husband Tanner are proud to announce the arrival of Lucy Kay. She was born on Feb. 25.

12 Jessica Harvey Bohaty '11, Wahoo, and her husband Nick welcomed identical twin girls, Miriam Elizabeth and Hannah Katharine, born on June 25, 2015.

13 Blake R. Tobey '09, '11E, Waverly, and his wife Ashley welcomed their second son, Anderson Mitchell Samson Tobey, on May 11.

14 Kacy J. Armstrong '10, Baltimore, married Steven Roy in Chicago on Feb. 27. Kacy works in the business office at Center Stage.

Todd A. Depue '10, Lincoln, is a quality specialist at Nelnet Business Solutions in Lincoln.

Margaret Frei Doane '10, Waverly, and her husband Luke welcomed their daughter Clara Mae on March 16.

Julie Huls '10L, Adams, is vice president of trust operations at Union Bank & Trust in Lincoln.

Angela B. Luedtke '10E, Lincoln, accepted the position of principal at Clinton Elementary School.

Kealyn D. O'Rourke '10L, '13A, Lincoln, married Brett Lutt on July 9.

Erik A. Witt '10, '06E, Lincoln, was named principal at the Yankee Hill Program through the Lincoln Public Schools. The program is designed to create a structured, safe and predictable school environment for students in grades 9-12.

Hannah M. Helman '10, Lincoln, married Derek Wurl on Aug. 16, 2014. Hannah is an occupational therapist at Butler County Health Care Center in David City.

Dr. Jacob A. Bartek '11, Falls City, opened a chiropractic practice in Hiawatha, Kansas, in March.

Trevor Bullock '11A, Lincoln, was promoted to the role of chief executive officer at Premier Psychiatric Group, LLC.

Kate Honeyman Engel '11A, Lincoln, is the director of communication and culture at the Nebraska Innovation Campus.

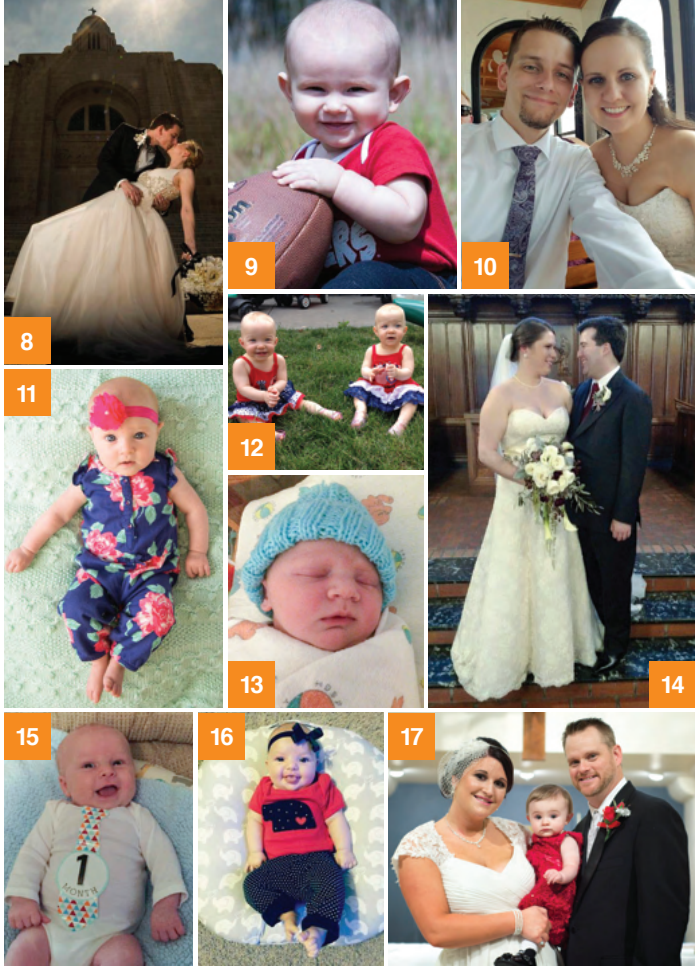
Calicia C. Hergott '11, Bellevue, married Jared Patton on June 24.

Christina E. Kobza Kruger '11, Lincoln, will be the head softball coach at Pius X High School. Kruger is a 2005 graduate of Pius X.

Richard '11 and Jenna Essman '10 Lierman, Lincoln, welcomed Nora Cody on May 14.

15 Melisa M. Ventre '11, '14E and **Joshua R. Barnard '12, '14E**, Beatrice, welcomed Kamdyn Robert. He was born Aug. 4.

Dalton M. Ryba '12 Benbrook, Texas, married **Kelsie M. Grgurich '13** on June 10. Dalton is a doctor of podiatric medicine at John Peter Smith Hospital, and Kelsie is a teacher and coach at



Eagle Mountain Saginaw Independent School District.

Rob '12A and Amanda Brunkow '04L Mizerski, Lincoln, welcomed a son, Cade Robert, on May 24.

16 Chad '12L and Sara Nippert '04 Arens, Waverly, welcomed a daughter, Katelyn Marie, on June 21. She joins big brother Luke.

Shalene Weyers Shepard '12L, Milford, and her husband Tylor welcomed Rylan John on Aug. 18. Rylan joins big sister Haileigh.

Steele D. Erickson '13, York, is an insurance agent at Aflac.

Michaela M. Hruska '13, Omaha, married Jordan L. Wachal on July 11, 2015.

17 Laura R. McNerney '13, Giltner, married Joseph Happold on May 14.

Lisa Kozisek Moore '13, Lincoln, is a school counselor for Lincoln Public Schools.

Amy L. Brezenski '14G, Grand Island, is now a youth

security specialist at the Hastings Juvenile Chemical Dependency Program for the State of Nebraska.

Jocelyn C. Dittmar '14, Waukee, Iowa, is a research and remediation representative at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

Lee J. Dwyer '14, Omaha, became a producer at KETV Newswatch 7 in June.

Emily C. Garcia '14, Malali, Guyana, is a community education promoter teaching reading and other fundamentals to the village's children. Emily is a native of Mead but recently moved to Guyana.

Kayla F. Kettelson '14, Wichita, Kansas, is the adult program coordinator at Mulvane Public Library.

Mark A. Lucas '14, Lincoln, is now a technical support specialist at Preferred Professional Insurance Company, a Coverys company. »

Joshua R. Russo ’14A, Lincoln, is an office associate at University of Nebraska Medical Center. ...

Shaylah Schadwinkel Stephens ’14, Gering, is a sixth grade teacher at Northfield Elementary School. ...

Jeffery Bliemeister ’15A, Lincoln, was appointed as Lincoln’s new chief of police. He was previously a Lancaster County sheriff chief deputy. ...

Nick S. Hamilton ’15, Phoenix, is a sales apprentice at MicroAge. ...

Maggie J. Hubbell ’15, Omaha, was hired to teach German at Skutt Catholic High School. ...

Marissa J. Merithew ’15, Lincoln, married **Jeffrey L. Starman ’14, ’16E** on June 30. ...

Stacy L. Pospisil ’15, Lincoln, was one of five women honored for community service at the opening ceremonies for the 2016 Miss Nebraska Pageant on June 5. ...

Tyler J. Strobl ’15, São Carlos, Brazil, is an English teaching assistant with the Fulbright Commission. His current placement is at the Federal University of São Carlos. He is originally from Guide Rock. ...

Hannah L. Dostal ’15, Grand Island, married Kirby Wells on June 18. ...

Katrina J. Wulf ’15, Omaha, is a customer service representative for Blue Cross Blue Shield. ...

Jordyn L. Atwater ’16 became the 67th Doane student to receive a Fulbright award. She is studying in Germany. ...

Marie B. Hall ’16A, Lincoln, completed the Lincoln Half-Marathon on May 1. ...

Cassandra C. Kennedy ’16 works for Walt Disney World in the Disney College Program. ...

Brooke A. Ludemann ’16, Denver, is the donor engagement coordinator at the University of Denver. Brooke also serves on the leadership team for Doane’s Rocky Mountain Alumni Chapter. ...

Miranda M. Mayer ’16, Omaha, is a customer service representative for Blue Cross Blue Shield. ...

Kevin D. Nguyen ’16, Lincoln, is a correctional officer at Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. ...

Amanda J. Petersen ’16, Bulgaria, is an English teaching assistant with the Fulbright

Commission. Amanda is the 66th Doane student to earn a grant from the prestigious international fellowship but the first in school history to accept an award from Bulgaria. ...

Eric J. Reiter ’16, Fremont, is a victim advocate at the Hope Crisis Center in Lincoln. ...

Taylor M. Ruzicka ’16, Ashland, is a third grade teacher at Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools. ...

Jordan D. Tjaden ’16, North Platte, is a team manager for Midwest Connect. ...

Michaela A. Winter ’16L, York, is an executive assistant to the general manager at HomeServices of Nebraska. ...

Lila T. Wondercheck ’16, Newman Grove, is a fourth grade teacher at Clearwater-Orchard Public Schools. ■



In memory of G. Sam Bell ’50

George Sam Bell, a longtime NCAA Division I track coach and 1950 graduate of Doane’s Crete campus, died June 27 in Bloomington, Indiana, the home of Indiana University where he coached for 29 years (1969-98). He led the Hoosiers to 22 Big Ten titles in men’s cross country and indoor and outdoor track, while IU’s women’s teams won four conference titles under his leadership.

Bell was born in 1928 in Columbia, Missouri, and graduated from Doane with bachelors’ degrees in English and political science. Six years later, he earned his master’s in physical education from the University of Oregon.

He went on to coach at Oregon State University for eight years (1958-65), highlighted by the Beavers’ cross country national championship in 1961. He then coached at the University of California-Berkeley (1965-69) before moving to Indiana.

Bell was involved in international competition, too. He coached the U.S. men’s team for a dual meet against the Soviet Union in 1964, distance runners for the 1976 Olympics and the American team for the 1979 World Cup. He oversaw the 1987 Pan American Games and 1988 United States Olympic Trials as meet director.

In 1966, he received the Honor D Award, given to former Doane student-athletes distinguished by outstanding service in their life’s work. He joined the National Track Hall of Fame in 1992 and the United States Track Coaches Hall of Fame in 2002.

Bell’s obituary was featured in The New York Times this summer. ■

IN MEMORY

For additional information available on any of these alumni, contact the Alumni Office at 402.826.8258.

Edward A. Babka V5
Dubuque, Iowa, June 20

Maurice F. Cullen V5
Ralston, July 1

Richard D. Pilgrim V5
Nevada, Iowa, May 2

H. Keith Adkisson V12
Bethesda, Maryland, Aug. 4, 2014

Harold “Hal” J. Bleyhl V12
Boise, Idaho, Nov. 2, 2014

Thomas G.B. King V12
Denver, Colorado, Oct. 28, 2013

Victor J. Lechtenberg V12
Omaha, Feb. 26

Capt. Richard C. Maurer, Jr. V12
Manassas, Virginia, March 30, 2013

Mary Hurst Kiechel ’41
Fort Belvoir, Virginia, Nov. 13, 2011

B. Jane Skokan Grosscup ’42
Lincoln, March 5, 2015

Lyle B. Quinn ’42
Fairbury, March 14

John L. Tidball, III ’43
Lincoln, Aug. 9

Robert L. Kastanek ’44
Crete, March 3

Millicent Neumann Troupe ’45
Oakland, May 16

Robert K. Betts ’46
Central City, June 4, 2015

Phyllis Johnson Myers ’46
Medford, Massachusetts, July 13, 2015

Dean L. Petersen ’47, V12
Lincoln, Aug. 23

Betty Rasmussen Lyness ’49
Boone, Iowa, Feb. 6

Frank D. Haack ’50, V12
Grand Island, May 4

Robert L. Chancellor ’50
Lincoln, June 15

John “Jack” W. McDermand ’50
North Platte, July 18

Carol Pospisil Bors ’52
Crete, March 6

Robert “Bob” J. Mooney ’53
Seattle, Washington, Dec. 14, 2013

Eunice M. Troester ’53
York, Dec. 12, 2014

Richard M. Alden ’56
Auburn, Jan. 1, 2015

James W. Taylor ’56
Fort Collins, Colorado, Sept. 10

Allen L. Houser ’57
Pueblo, Colorado, May 31

Elizabeth Meacham Steen ’57
Ralston, Oct. 27, 2015

Gary D. McConnell ’58
Prescott, Arizona, May 20

Donald P. Svehla ’59
Lincoln, March 2

Nancy Dreith Larsen ’60
Lincoln, July 28

M. David Osterhout III ’60
Crete, July 20

Twyla Lawson Zak ’61
Mesa, Arizona, March 17

Roger L. Capps ’66
Edwardsville, Illinois, Aug. 9

John E. Vernon ’67
Slatington, Pennsylvania, Feb. 27

Richard J. Ziegler ’67
Syracuse, July 9

R. Craig Kelley ’68
Alexis, Illinois, Feb. 26

Fredrick S. Hayek ’69
Blairsville, Georgia, June 27

Gary L. Higgins ’69
Holmdel, New Jersey, Sept. 6, 2010

Robert V. Lewis ’70
Northfield, Vermont, Jan. 22, 2013

Margaret G. Rasmussen ’71
Friend, Aug. 15

Stephen W. Simpson ’71
La Junta, Colorado, Feb. 17

Kathleen A. Glodowski ’76
Madison, July 15, 2015

Michael J. Spictzler ’76
Palm Springs, California, July 31, 2015

Steve A. Kodad ’78
McCook, June 27

Pamela Schwaninger Dorau ’81
Bennington, Oct. 15, 2014

R. Denise Youngblood Henning ’88
Kansas City, Missouri, Sept. 9

Lara Preston Hunt ’90
O’Neill, Sept. 29, 2015

Raelynne Malone Dunn ’93
Saint Joseph, Missouri, Aug. 30

Steve J. Mertens ’94L
Lincoln, June 11, 2015

J. Fred Wegelin ’12L
Lincoln, March 17

Gina S. Cyza ’15E
Omaha, May 22, 2015

Julie Bridger-Viger ’16
Crete, March 17

Kaitlyn P. Worthington ’16G
Grand Island, Sept. 2 ■

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▲ A close-up of a recycled resin panel wall in the new Nexus Multicultural Center. Read more about the panel and the Nexus on page 3. *Andrew Mattson*