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Liz Metcalfe practices with the Oriana Singers and Chamber Orchestra at St. Paul's Cathedral. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

When Professor Emeritus George Happ was planning his retirement in 1995 he knew exactly what he wanted to do: Move to Alaska, buy a pack of sled dogs and race them in competitions across the frozen tundra of the Land of the Midnight Sun.

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Commencement The University of Vermont will celebrate its 199th Commencement on Sunday, May 18. On that day, at 9 a.m. on Centennial Field, an estimated 2,112 students will complete their academic careers at the university.

INTERview: Robert Corran UVM's new athletic director isn't short on ideas on how to take Vermont sports to the next level, or, as he likes to put it, to bring them up to par with the university's already high academic standards.

Super Sed Sederick Rice was walking near his lab in the Health Science Research Facility when he first heard the news. "Hey, I saw you in *Ebony* magazine," a passing co-worker said.

THE WEEK IN VIEW

May 16 9 a.m. Ceremony: UVM ROTC graduates receive Army commissions, with remarks by Major Drew Dix, winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Information: 656-5716

May 16 2:30 p.m. Trustees meeting: Committee of the Whole. Memorial Lounge, Waterman. Information: [Trustees Schedule](#) .

May 18 9 a.m. Commencement. Centennial Field. College and departmental ceremonies held at varying locations and times.1

May 20 9 a.m. Seminar: "Defining the Nature of Electrical Communication in Resistance Arteries," with Donald Welsh of the University of Calgary. Room B-333, Given Building.

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Junior John Pigott vaulted to an equestrian championship in early May – a first for him, UVM and Northern New England. *(Photo courtesy of Madeleine Austin.)*

UVM Rider Wins Equestrian National Championship

Junior John Pigott was a double winner at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association National Championships May 1-4 in Murfreesboro, Tenn, besting 400 other riders from colleges and universities nationwide.

Pigott, a Newport, R.I., native, won the individual open fences class competition and the prestigious Cacchione Cup, which is awarded to the competitor with the most overall points. This is the first time that a rider from Northern New England has ever won the Cacchione Cup.

"It was extremely close; I had to really pull my stuff together for the Cacchione," says Pigott, who has been riding for 14 years. "It's the top honor in the nation; it's what everyone strives for and what I've been striving for since I first got to college. It's a huge, huge, huge honor."

Pigott was also a very close second in the individual open flat class.

His wins earned him a \$1,500 grant to compete in Europe, an \$800 scholarship and two saddles, plus other assorted spoils of equine victory.

"This championship is comparable in depth and breadth to any NCAA final, pitting the country's best collegiate riders against each other," says equestrian team coach Madeleine Austin.

Some 7,000 students from more than 340 colleges and universities work their way toward the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association

Nursing and Health Sciences Receives its Largest Gift Ever

A \$2 million gift from an anonymous donor to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences is a milestone for the college and provides support for two key initiatives. The gift, which was announced May 8 and is the largest individual contribution in the history of the college, will be equally divided to support an endowed professorship in radiation therapy and an endowed chair in end-of-life/palliative care.

"This gift is a powerful endorsement of the work of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and its leadership under Dean Betty Rambur," said President Daniel Mark Fogel. "At such a critical time in health care, we will look to the college to play a vital role in achieving the university's mission in this important area."

The \$1 million directed toward end-of-life/palliative care is the first step toward an overall goal of \$3 million to support an endowed chair in this area. It's an important issue for health care professionals and society – while about 70 percent of Americans say they want to die at home, about 75 percent die in medical institutions such as hospitals and nursing homes.

"Our goal is to better understand how to serve patients and families at the end of life, and prepare all our students, regardless of professional discipline, to be a healing force in this process," Rambur said when the gift was announced. Detailing some of the areas where palliative care could be improved, Rambur noted that pain management is dramatically under-treated. "So often we're focused on cure and not care. We need to be looking at how we can really enhance the end stage with a focus on what the patient and what the family want."

Rambur believes this gift will be an essential step to build an emphasis on both research and curriculum in this area. "We need to build a critical mass of caregivers who are sensitive to these issues," Rambur said. "My goal is that every one of our 500 students will have the knowledge and emotional preparation to be advocates for patients and help foster positive end-of-life experiences."

The other half of the gift will address a need for radiation therapists in Vermont and throughout the nation. The \$1 million in support of the Radiation Therapy Program will "help us prepare professionals who provide treatment for those afflicted with cancer, and also advance our research agenda in the area of cancer treatment," said Burton Wilcke, associate professor and chair of the Department of Biomedical Technologies.

Nationals. About 400 equestrians compete at the national level.

To qualify for national competition, Pigott worked his way up through regional and then "zone" competitions. He competed in eight horse shows in the 2002-03 season winning almost every one. He won all of the three classes that he qualified for at the regional and New England championships.

"The caliber of riding is so high that several previous winners of the Cacchione Cup have gone on to represent the United States in international competition, including at the Olympics," says Austin. She has trained UVM's Equestrian Team for the last decade at her 88-acre farm in Williston.

Pigott says he hopes to use his scholarship winnings to compete in Germany in June and at another international competition in the U.S. in July. Pigott is a double major in chemistry and animal science who plans to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.

Fleming Moves Quickly to Secure Work by Two Artists

Glenn Ligon's contemporary text appropriations and Charles Heyde's pastoral Vermont landscapes, wildly different on the surface, have at least one thing in common: The Fleming Museum's recent acquisition of paintings by the two artists was made possible only by swift rallying of the UVM community.

Tom Pierce, a local Heyde enthusiast who curated the 2001 Heyde exhibit at the Fleming, knew that speed mattered when, on the Web, he spotted two small Heyde paintings belonging to a woman in California. They were "calling card" paintings, small works created as something between a business card and an advertisement to drum up some commissions. Pierce's attention was sparked particularly by the fact that ownership of the two works could be traced directly to Heyde and his wife Hannah Whitman Heyde, sister of American poet Walt Whitman.

Pierce says that he views the Fleming as the home base of Heyde's work and adds, "these paintings were too important not to be in the collection." Within a day, Pierce got to work making sure that was exactly where they'd be. He contacted the paintings' owner; arranged appraisals; and put in calls to a circle of potential donors who he hoped would support purchasing the paintings then giving them to the Fleming Museum. With a batting average that would be the envy of any fundraiser, Pierce placed five calls and yielded five gifts. The Heydes were coming home. Those who answered the call to make the swift purchase and subsequent gift to the Fleming possible were Theodore Church, Judy and James Pizzagalli, Gunnel and Grier Clarke, Carolyn and Harry Thurgate, J. Brooks Buxton, and Pierce himself.

Scheduled to go on display this spring in the European and American Gallery, the two Heyde works feature the view out UVM's front door –

Wilcke said that the role of radiation therapists has evolved from what was once seen as a purely technical function. Cancer treatment has increasingly become a team approach with patients, families, doctors, nursing specialists, and many other healthcare professionals deeply involved. Wilcke said that the endowed professorship will enable the college to bring in a new faculty member well-versed in the range of skills – highly technical to interpersonal – that are essential to training excellent future radiation therapists.

Summing the potential in the record private support, Rambur said, "Outstanding research and teaching in these areas are essential to quality health care. The generous gift will enhance our existing strengths and enable a profound and lasting impact on society."

UVM Campus Lauded in Burlington "Distinctive Destination" Award

When the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Burlington one of their 12 "Distinctive Destinations" for 2003, they praised the usuals: Lake Champlain, Church Street and the active art scene. Beyond that, the award also explicitly singled out the attraction of the UVM Green, which was designated a national historic district by the group several years ago.

"Burlington represents a truly distinctive slice of America. That makes it an exciting alternative to the homogenization of many other vacation spots," said Richard Moe, president of the national trust.

The trust also praised City Hall Park and the Fleming Museum as part of Burlington's distinctive tourist appeal.

The group's other award-winning destinations are Coronado, Calif.; Edenton, N.C.; Galveston, Tex.; Georgetown, Colo.; Jekyll Island, Ga.; Keene, N.H.; Mackinac Island, Mich.; Natchez, Miss.; New Harmony, Ind.; Portland, Maine; and Vancouver, Wash.

The group says the award-winners were drawn from a list of 50 destinations nominated by preservation organizations and community groups. Read more about Burlington's award (and see a photo by Sally McCay of University Photography) at [Dozen Distinctive Destinations 2003: Burlington, VT.](#)

Lake Champlain's Burlington Bay – and its back –
Mount Mansfield.

When Fleming Director Janie Cohen found Glenn Ligon works on paper for sale through a New York art dealer, she saw another rare opportunity to expand the museum collection in an important direction. Cohen says the Fleming has lacked text-based work, an important contemporary movement. Acquiring the Ligon paintings would also build the museum's collection of works by African-American artists.

Richard Meyer described Ligon's approach in the October 1997 edition of the publication *Art/Text*: "In his best-known series of work, Ligon stencils black text across the surface of white, door-sized canvases. The words presented are not the artist's own but have been appropriated from writers such as Zora Neale Hurston, Ralph Ellison, and James Baldwin. Typically, Ligon will repeat an especially charged sentence (Hurston's "How it feels to be colored me") until it verges, through the force of excess paint, on illegibility. The tension these works set up – between visibility and erasure, between the linguistic naming of "color" and its painterly absence on the canvas – suggest the subtle contradictions and perpetual slippages of racial identity and embodied desire."

The Fleming's new portfolio of four Ligon prints includes works featuring the Hurston text described above, and a quote from Ellison's *Invisible Man*.

Cohen rallied support across university departments to make the Ligon acquisition possible. In addition to the Fleming's Way Endowment Fund, financial support for the acquisition came from the Provost's Central Diversity Fund, the H. Lawrence McCrorey Gallery of Multicultural Art, and alumnus Stephen D. Kelly '85.

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A vast array of covered bridge experts – from academics to structural engineers – will converge on campus in early June for a major conference.

National Covered Bridge Conference at UVM in June

Henry Petroski of Duke University will address the opening session of the “Covered Bridge Preservation: National Best Practices” conference to be held June 5-7 at the University of Vermont.

The conference will offer 36 presentations on subjects as diverse as bridge preservation case studies, best practices in maintaining covered bridges, engineering, covered bridge history and cultural tourism strategies. Attendees will include state and local highway engineers, volunteers, contractors, historians and historic preservationists.

Henry Petroski is the Aleksandar S. Vesic Professor of Civil Engineering and a professor of history at Duke University. He has written on many aspects of engineering and technology, including design, success and failure, error and judgment, the history of engineering and technology, and the use of case studies in education and practice. His books on these subjects, which are intended for professional engineers and general readers alike, include: *To Engineer Is Human*, which was adapted for a BBC-television documentary; *The Pencil*; and *The Evolution of Useful Things*.

The conference is sponsored by the University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program, Historic Windsor, the National Park Service and the Federal Highway Administration. For information and registration, call 674-6752, e-mail coveredbridges@uvm.edu or visit the conference Website at www.uvm.edu/coveredbridges.

UVM Job Fair Set for June 4

The university is hosting a job fair on June 4 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Billings Student Center. The fair is free and open to anyone interested in staff employment at the university.

Attendees will learn how to transfer to new jobs at UVM, identify specific current openings and enhance skills. An hour-long workshop, “Dynamic Resumes...Get the Job You Want” will be held at 3:30 p.m. Recruiters will provide UVM employment information to attendees and hiring supervisors from several campus departments will be on hand.

UVM offers a full range of employment opportunities including trades, maintenance, clerical, secretarial, computing, laboratory, research, financial, administrative and professional areas. Representatives from several departments will attend to describe the wealth of resources available to UVM staff members. Salary information and a description of the total staff compensation package will be available.

Free parking will be available behind Ira Allen Chapel and at the visitor’s parking lot on College St. For more information about the event, or to register for the resumes workshop, call the UVM Employment Office at 656-3494 or the Office of Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity at 656-3368.

Seminar Offers Nutrition Tips to Families Facing Diabetes

Robin Edelman, clinical nutrition manager at Fletcher Allen Health Care, will speak on May 28 at noon in 427A Waterman. The certified diabetes educator will offer a nutrition update targeted at people who have diabetes in their families.

To register for the talk, e-mail Emina.Burak@uvm.edu.

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Publications and Presentations

Larry Shirland, professor of business administration, had an article, "Job Selection Preferences of Business Students," accepted in the *Journal of Applied Business Research*. His co-authors are Ron Thompson and Charles Iacocou.

Annie Viets, lecturer of business administration, co-presented a workshop with Peter Kinder, President of KLD Analytics, at the Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility's annual conference on May 12. The session was titled "Principles and Profit" and focused on business ethics, managing values and corporate governance.

Awards and Honors

John and Sara Burchard, professors of psychology, are this year's joint recipients of the Kids on the Block-Vermont "Puppets' Choice Award." At an April 30 dinner in their honor, the Burchards were recognized for their outstanding contributions to children and families throughout Vermont. The Burchards have taught and mentored generations of students who work with, and advocate for, developmentally disabled children and their families. Kids on the Block-Vermont is affiliated with a national organization that uses puppets to deliver messages of personal safety, diversity and acceptance of disabilities.

Sylvia Park, a member of the College of Medicine Class of 2004, has been appointed to represent the Association of American Medical College as the student member of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, the accrediting organization for all 125 United States allopathic medical schools. She is one of only two students in the United States who will work on the committee. Ms. Park will serve from July 2003 through June 2004 as an active voting member of the LCME in its review of medical schools, and will participate in a three-day site visit at one of the schools under review.

The **Vermont chapter of the American College of Physicians** has received one of eight 2003 Evergreen Award in honor of a medical student-initiated project focused on increasing medical students' exposure to the internal medicine profession. Components of the project included an Internal Medicine Interest Group and mentoring and peer interaction opportunities for students.

Dr. Virginia Hood, professor of medicine, accepted the award on behalf of the state chapter. The Evergreen Awards recognize outstanding ACP chapter efforts in such areas as community service, communication, careers in internal medicine and member recruitment.

April 30 - May 13, 2003

Publications and Presentations

John Gennari, assistant professor of English and ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies, will deliver a paper titled "Freedom Now: The Jazz Avant-Garde, The 1960s Black Freedom Struggle, and U.S. Jazz Criticism," at the Culture and the State conference in Edmonton, Alberta on May 3. On April 12, he delivered a paper titled "What is Jazz? The Case of George Wein" at the Second Annual Pop Conference at the Experience Music Project museum in Seattle. In June, he will deliver the keynote address at an international scholar's symposium to be held in conjunction with the Terni Jazz Festival in Terni (Umbria), Italy.

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A World of Retirements

From weaving to sled dogs, UVM retirees find different work paths – but still think in terms of semesters

By Jon Reidel



Liz Metcalfe practices with the Oriana Singers and Chamber Orchestra at St. Paul's Cathedral. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

When Professor Emeritus George Happ was planning his retirement in 1995 he knew exactly what he wanted to do: Move to Alaska, buy a pack of sled dogs and race them in competitions across the frozen tundra of the Land of the Midnight Sun.

The former chair of the zoology/biology department stuck to his plans. After buying some land and clearing

portions of it himself with a chain saw in minus 40-degree weather, Happ acquired 20 sled dogs and spent five hours a day training and caring for them. He eventually entered the mixed-breed dogs in a series of distance races, and although he didn't win any money, he fulfilled a retirement goal.

As time passed, however, the draw of academia slowly pulled Happ back into teaching and research. It happened slowly with the winning of a few research grants, but eventually grew into a full-time position as a research professor at the Institute of Arctic Biology in the Department of Biology and Wildlife at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Today, Happ works at the university, runs a research lab, serves as Alaska's EPSCoR project director, continues to win grant money and juggles numerous other projects. For the most part, the days of filling his lungs with blood after breaking seven ribs while grooming sled dog trails are over.

"It's been interesting," Happ says. "We came up here to relax and run dogs. I spent the first year working with a chain saw. It was very challenging. But I started drifting more and more back to research and got hooked as an administrator again. The only difference now is that if the job becomes intolerable, I can tell them to... what's the name of that song... take this job and shove it?"

Retirement reality

A number of university retirees have followed the same retirement pattern as Happ by doing something different for the first few years – whether running sled dogs or sleeping all day – then fall back into work that is reminiscent of, but more flexible than, their UVM employment.

Some retirees travel the world, while others write books or play golf in Florida or hang out in Burlington. Others yet, like professors emeriti Elizabeth Atwood and Peter Brown, have turned avocations into new vocations. Brown, who taught music at UVM, has been living part-time in Montreal and playing in the Montreal Philharmonic Orchestra.

Atwood, a former associate professor of business administration with expertise

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Commencement

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Super Sed

Sederick Rice was walking near his lab in the Health Science Research Facility when he first heard the news. "Hey, I saw you in *Ebony* magazine," a passing co-worker said.

in merchandising, is a master weaver and owns a weaving studio in Florence, Vt., where she makes scarves, rugs and wall hangings. She also teaches weaving, which she's practiced for more than 50 years.

"I knew exactly what to do with myself when I retired," Atwood says. "You've got to find some kind of activity you can throw yourself into. My advice is to get interested in something that makes you happy."

The range of activities for UVM retirees is broad, and according to Greg Brown, a human resources benefits manager, these options depend heavily on how much money people saved while working at UVM. The theory, Brown says, is that people need to save the equivalent of 60 to 80 percent of their pre-retirement income if they intend to maintain the same lifestyle as when they were working.

Whether that's enough money to last 20 years or more depends on what people have planned for retirement. Brown says people usually want to just relax, although there have been instances where retirees want to buy homes in warmer places. One couple sold their home and bought a Winnebago to travel the country.

"Some people come in here and say, 'I've worked hard over the years and saved a lot of money,'" Brown says. "Someone who made \$50,000 a year while working and saved \$300,000 often thinks they have a lot of money. But when converted over a long retirement period it usually isn't as much as they thought, especially if they want to travel."

There are 43 faculty members retiring this year who will be recognized at Commencement on May 18. (Visit the [Retiring Faculty](#) page to see a list of their names sorted by college.) Some of these fledgling emeriti say they have no plans, while others sound committed to specific projects.

Professor Emeritus Roger Cooke, for example, says he plans to devote the first year to writing the second edition of his history of mathematics textbook, in addition to taking courses at the university and "generally making a nuisance of myself in whatever community service I can find that suits me."

Do what you love

William and Liz Metcalfe are the relatively rare example of a couple that retired from the university who are both doing what they love. As a full-time member of the history department for 35 years, William also served as chair of the music and history departments, and as director of area studies and Canadian studies.

Needless to say, it took him a little while to settle into retirement, although it wasn't long before he was back teaching courses, conducting with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, and pursuing other musical endeavors. Liz, who spent 30 years in the music department, travels around the country playing with the New York Chamber Soloists, as well as teaching and practicing for hours each day and playing with a number of local organizations.

"I thought that my second year was particularly difficult," William Metcalfe says. "Reality sets in a little that second year. You've got to expect some down times. It's really a question of how you weather them. After 35 years of teaching you get in those academic rhythms. I still think in terms of semesters."

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UVM to Celebrate Commencement on May 18

By the view Staff



The university's 199th commencement will take place on Sunday, May 18. (File photo: University Photography)

The University of Vermont will celebrate its 199th Commencement on Sunday, May 18. On that day, at 9 a.m. on Centennial Field, an estimated 2,112 students will close one phase their academic careers at the university. The group includes about 1,670 undergraduates, 350 graduate students and 94 medical students. Almost half of the group are Vermont residents.

The commencement address will be delivered by Jon Kilik, a film producer and 1978 UVM graduate. Kilik will receive an honorary degree, as will Marian Pritchard, a Vershire, Vermont, psychotherapist who helped rescue 150 Jews during the Holocaust. Biographical sketches of Kilik and Pritchard are at the end of this article.

In the event of rain, the ceremony will be held in the indoor tennis facility of the Athletic Complex on Spear Street. Tickets are not required for either event. For more information about the program, see [UVM Commencement](#).

The university-wide ceremony is not the university's only graduation celebration on May 18. Many schools and colleges will host guest speakers at their individual ceremonies. The speakers include: alumna Nicole Maria Stata, founder and president of Deploy Solutions, a workforce management company based in Westwood, Mass, for the School of Business; Vermont Lieutenant Governor Brian Dubie, for the College of Engineering and Math; Dr. Nils Daulaire, president and chief executive officer of Global Health Council, for the College of Medicine; Lawrence Forcier, director of UVM Extension, for the School of Natural Resources; and Carolyn Roberts, Carolyn Roberts, health policy advisor to U.S. Senator James Jeffords and former chief executive officer of Copley Health Systems, for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Individual college ceremonies are scheduled as follows:

- 11:30 a.m., College of Arts and Sciences, Centennial Field. Tickets are not required. In the event of foul weather, the ceremony will be held in the indoor tennis facility in the athletic complex with overflow seating available in the adjoining Patrick Gymnasium (closed-circuit television).
- 11:45 a.m., College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Ira Allen Chapel. Tickets are required. For ticket information, call the Office of Student Services at 656-3858.
- 11:45 a.m., College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Fieldhouse/Indoor Track.
- 1:00 p.m., School of Natural Resources, Gymnastic Facility, Patrick Gymnasium.
- 2:00 p.m., School of Business Administration, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts.
- 2:00 p.m., College of Engineering and Mathematics, Patrick Gymnasium.

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[Retirement Worlds](#)

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[Super Sed](#)

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- 2:30 p.m., College of Education and Social Services, Gutterson Fieldhouse.
- 2:30 p.m., College of Medicine, Ira Allen Chapel. Attendance must be confirmed by calling 656-2152.

All ceremonies run approximately 90 minutes.

Honorary Degree Biographies

JONATHAN CHARLES KILIK
Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters

Throughout his successful career in film, Jon Kilik has been involved with projects guided by a strong social conscience and distinguished by artistic achievement. Kilik's working relationship with director Spike Lee grew into a close and productive partnership after the pair joined efforts for 1989's *Do the Right Thing*. In addition to many collaborations with Lee, Kilik has worked as a producer with some of film's finest, including Robert Altman, Robert DeNiro and Tim Robbins. Kilik's production mark is on films such as *Dead Man Walking*, *Pleasantville*, *Basquiat* and *Malcolm X*, among many others.

Kilik, UVM Class of 1978, has traced his interest in film to the day he viewed *Citizen Kane* in Professor Frank Manchel's film class at the University of Vermont. "I was awestruck," Kilik recalled. "Seeing *Citizen Kane* moved me in a way that no other classroom experience had." He was a junior in economics and a self-described "kind of lost student" then, a situation that changed rapidly as he took as many film classes as possible. Over the years, Kilik has often returned to campus in a guest lecturer role to share his knowledge of the inner-workings of the movie business and inspire students' own dreams of careers in film.

After graduation, Kilik paid his dues as a production assistant in the close-knit New York City film world, gaining experience and establishing his credentials with some of the best in the business – Woody Allen, Ethan and Joel Coen, the legendary John Huston.

When Lee called, looking for a producer to help him with the *Do the Right Thing* project, one of today's top director-producer teams was born. Kilik and Lee found much in common – their work ethic and commitment to filmmaking, an iron belief in making decisions for themselves, a strong interest in sports. Personally and professionally, the relationship immediately worked. "We are both persistent and stubborn – dedicated to filmmaking and in love with it. There is a real drive that I think we share," Kilik said. "We want to go up against the odds, whatever they might be."

Kilik offers directors such as Lee a creative sounding board, knowledge of the film business and skill with people that can be critical to the success of a project. "Problem-solving is an important part of the work," Kilik said. "You're in a new situation every day." With high stakes and large budgets on the line, the pressure and logistical challenges of making a major motion picture are immense. His producer role often puts Kilik in the middle of making the whole process work smoothly. For a film such as *Malcolm X*, that meant listening to and sorting out the problems of hundreds of actors and technical people on the set day after day from the United States to Saudi Arabia.

In recent years, Kilik has worked on several films directed by artist Julian Schnabel, an experience that has inspired him to begin collecting art, particularly the work of Andy Warhol. Kilik's loan of a number of pieces to UVM's Fleming Museum is at the heart of the current "Andy Warhol: Work and Play" retrospective exhibit.

MARION VAN BINSBERGEN PRITCHARD
Doctor of Laws

Marion Pritchard's role in saving the lives of more than 150 Jews during the Holocaust has earned her international recognition and honor from Yad Vashem in Israel to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Born in Amsterdam in 1920, Pritchard credits her parents for her behavior. Her father was a liberal-thinking judge, accepting of all people and their differences. Her mother was tiny, tough, cheerful and confident. Her strong moral conviction would lead to Pritchard's involvement in the Dutch resistance movement and to years of rescuing Jews, mostly children, from deportation and death. "For somebody's life, how could you not," she said.

At the age of 19, Pritchard entered the school of social work in Amsterdam, where she was enrolled when Holland fell under Nazi occupation in 1940. Pritchard was studying at a friend's apartment, unaware that some residents of the house were part of the Dutch resistance, when Nazis raided and arrested all of the occupants. She would spend the next seven months in jail. "I always thought I had my mother's ability to ignore fear until I spent some time in a jail and that was very frightening," she recalls.

Her rescue work began in 1942 when Pritchard's boss asked her to hide a two-year-old Jewish boy who was targeted for the concentration camps. An incident that spring confirmed her commitment. Pritchard was riding her bicycle to school when she witnessed Nazi soldiers throwing sobbing Jewish children into trucks. Two women came down the street and tried to stop them; the Nazi soldiers put them on the truck too. She was angry and astonished at how the children were being treated. "When I saw that, I knew that my rescue work was more important than anything else I might be doing," she said. That summer, Pritchard volunteered to hide a Jewish family in a rural village. One night, a Dutch policeman who was a Nazi informer made a surprise visit. She reached for a hidden gun and shot him dead. She stayed with the father, Fred Polak, and his three young children for the duration of the war.

In 1945, at the war's end, 100,000 of the Netherlands' 140,000 Jews had been murdered. In hopes of learning the whereabouts of her Jewish friends who had survived, Pritchard went to work for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's Displaced Persons camps. It was in the refugee camps that she met her husband Tony Pritchard, a former U.S. Army Lieutenant. After two years of work in the camps, the couple married and moved to the United States residing first in Cambridge, Massachusetts, then New York, and finally settling in Vershire, Vt. in 1976.

Pritchard, a practicing psychoanalyst, is now in her eighties. She recently retired from the University of Vermont's Center for Holocaust Studies advisory board, of which she had been a member since its inception in 1993, but continues to be a regular participant in the university's summer seminar on Holocaust education.

"The university is highly indebted to Marion Pritchard for her selfless help in reaching out to students and others with information on the Holocaust," said Professor David Scrase, director of UVM's Center for Holocaust Studies. "Her actions in the 1940s were heroic and fraught with tremendous danger. Her actions since then have been equally selfless and morally driven."

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UVM HOMEPAGE

INTERview: Robert Corran

Recently hired Director of Athletics Bob Corran talks about his sense of the future of Vermont sports

By Jon Reidel



Robert Corran greets people in attendance at his introduction event on May 7 at Waterman. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Robert Corran isn't short on ideas on how to take UVM athletics to the next level, or, as he likes to put it, to bring them up to par with the university's already high academic standards.

Speaking from his soon-to-be-vacated office at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, where he served as director of intercollegiate athletics for six years, Corran, who was appointed athletic director on May

7, told the view about his vision for the future of UVM athletics and how he intends to achieve it.

Corran and his wife, Libby, who have two sons, plan to move to Vermont just prior to Corran's start date of June 16. He will succeed Rick Farnham '69, who worked at the university for 30 years, including 11 as director of athletics.

the view: What was it about UVM and the state of Vermont that made you want to come here?

ROBERT CORRAN: When I looked around at places I might want to go to, I had criteria that shrunk the list down to about 10 schools. Being in the East, academics, hockey and going to a place where I could make a difference were important factors.

I also applied for the job at Maine and was a finalist. But UVM was the perfect fit. After seeing the potential and meeting the coaching staff and people like Tom Gustafson, John Bramley and President (Daniel Mark) Fogel through the interview process, I felt like there was a lot of commitment to realize that potential. My wife loves the town of Burlington and the people she's met. It's a welcoming community and a place that my family likes, and that's an important part of the puzzle.

You've talked about bringing athletics up to par with the university's academic standing. With UVM ranked among the "Top 50 Public National Universities-Doctoral" by *U.S. News & World Report*, that could be a tall order. Is it attainable? How do you measure something like that?

It will be a challenge. I don't know enough yet to say if we could rank that highly in the Sears Cup (presented annually by Sears, Roebuck and Co. and the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics to the best overall collegiate athletic program in the country based on a point system), which certainly has a number of flaws in the way it's calculated. It's more important that we look at programs on a sport-by-sport basis to see if they have a legitimate opportunity to be successful at the national level, or at least

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Super Sed

Sederick Rice was walking near his lab in the Health Science Research Facility when he first heard the news. "Hey, I saw you in *Ebony* magazine," a passing co-worker said.

regionally.

There should be a standard established for each program, which is based on solid data and the resources necessary to be at those levels. Across the board measures can be difficult.

Using men's basketball as a model, how do you expect certain programs to go to the next level? With men's basketball unlikely to receive anything higher than a 15 or 16 seed in the NCAA tourney out of the America East Conference, how can it realistically expect to advance past the first round?

The men's basketball program is in a good place now, and it provides a springboard to do other things. They could play other nationally ranked programs after having been exposed to the tourney. Moving from a 16 seed to a 12 seed is doable with good scheduling and some facilities upgrades, and by fully funding the program in regards to scholarships. You can get to that 12 or 13 seed area, but to make that next jump to a five, six or eight seed is a significant step. But it can be done. Look at Gonzaga. In many ways Vermont could be a Gonzaga where you create this mystique, an aura around the program – this David versus Goliath kind of character that can help advance you along. There are some elements that would allow UVM to do that. But it can't just happen because we want it to.

UVM sporting events are well attended by area residents, yet students seem almost apathetic at times. How do you create an atmosphere that is attractive to students and establishes UVM as one of the premiere places to play, and attend, games in the Northeast?

We faced exactly the same situation at Duluth. The student population wasn't that involved. We had an aging population with an average age for hockey games of 57. It was a very subdued crowd without many students. We took some marketing approaches to consciously lower the age of ticket holders. We made it attractive for families by incorporating different ticket packages and promotions to get children involved. We held mini-mite games between periods, for example, and that started getting younger families to games. We've dropped our average age by 15 years. It has made the place noisier even though we've gotten some complaints that the students are too loud. Our band is excellent now. We had about 20 kids that were not really that good. Now we have 75-80 and the quality is excellent. That adds an awful lot. Event management does play into the kind of atmosphere you create.

Is UVM a sleeping athletic giant waiting to be woken up?

There are some inherent advantages at this institution that haven't been taken full advantage of. There is a strong tradition and history with the athletic program. It has a very positive solid academic reputation, and committed leadership. When you have those three things you have the opportunity to grow the program in positive ways. The America East is a conference UVM has been successful in. With the right resource allocation it can be very successful. You've had success in the ECAC in hockey, so there's no reason why you can't return to that. Certainly facilities and coach compensation are important and these are now being addressed.

It does become a process where you can see the obstacles and the end point. If you remove those obstacles you can get to the end point. The table is being set in a way that with some hard work those obstacles can be removed. There's luck involved in the whole notion of competitive success, but it's not blind luck. It's luck from the standpoint that you've got to work hard, plan well, and have good people, and when you have all those things functioning, you put yourself in a position to win. Luck will rarely make a really bad team win. But sometimes a good bounce here and there causes a good team to win. ... (But) all the luck in the world won't make any difference if you don't have the right things in place.

Do facilities play a major role in your equation for success?

Facilities have two fundamental roles: The first is the ability to provide an environment to train and maximize the potential of athletes. The second is the ability to recruit student-athletes. Facilities are a visible sign that this is a

program with a commitment to excellence. I want to know as an athlete that I can go there and really develop. Facilities play a critical role in that. It's a major issue to tackle.

What qualities will you look for when you start filling UVM's coaching vacancies in women's basketball, skiing, track and field and cross-country?

First, they've got to be good people. They have to have solid values that fit with educational sport. They have to be committed to serving people. That's what we do. We serve others. If you don't come with that kind of value base, you may be successful short term, but you're not going to be a good person within the department. That service has to extend beyond your own narrow focus. You're serving the university, and in Vermont's case, that extends to serving the entire state.

Secondly, you have to show leadership. You need people who are willing and able to step forward and provide leadership. For the department to function effectively, everyone in it has to know his or her role and step forward and be a leader in it.

They also have to want to work at making their student-athletes better people by stretching them athletically, educationally and socially, and by enriching their lives and their educational experience. The sum total of that is doing it the right way, so the results will be positive and people feel good about them. I want the state to look at UVM as a place with wonderful young men and women who make a lasting impression and become leaders in the community.

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UVM HOMEPAGE

Super Sed

Doctoral candidate Sederick Rice earned his nickname by staying focused on his dreams – and helping others

By Rachael Moeller Gorman



When Sederick Rice wants to achieve something, he makes a plan, and never quits until he's reached his goal. (Photo: Adam Riesner/UVM Medical Photography)

Sederick Rice was walking near his lab in the Health Science Research Facility when he first heard the news. "Hey, I saw you in *Ebony* magazine," a passing co-worker said.

Rice was elated, but not surprised. In fact, it was mission accomplished for the 30-year old Ph.D. candidate in pediatrics from Pine Bluff, Arkansas. "It was always my goal growing up to be in *Ebony*," he explains. "I just set a

path to getting there."

As a mentor to younger students, an adjunct faculty member in UVM's Race and Culture Program, and an author of a book on music, Rice clearly deserves his designation as one of *Ebony*'s "Young Leaders of the Future." But Rice's goal-oriented approach to life meant he didn't sit back and wait to be noticed.

"I trained, I flew to meetings, I summed up everything that I had ever done over the years. I'm a Leo," he laughs. "We have a problem. We don't think that there are things we can't do. But that mentality has helped me to stay focused and give everything I have."

Pine Bluff positive

Rice grew up in Pine Bluff, a medium-sized mid-south town 40 miles from Little Rock, whose motto is "Positively Pine Bluff!". Rice's early studies centered a passion for music rather than science.

"I think music started a lot of us off, because that was the primary focus growing up," Rice explains. "You have to have a discipline for music in order to understand it – it is its own language. Being able to understand music just kind of creates something in you to try to discover new things, just like putting different notes or instruments together produces a different sound. Being in music helped me to really start to love science."

Rice played the sousaphone, or tuba, in both the Pine Bluff High School and University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff marching bands. After receiving his masters in biology from Delaware State University and traveling to UVM in 1996 for his Ph.D., however, Rice drew upon music for another reason. "When I got to Vermont, I was fatigued and having some difficulties," Rice says. "But I had an epiphany one morning. I knew I had to do something to build my spirits up."

The result was the 1999 book *Must Be the Music, Vol. 1: Memoirs of a Musical Dynasty*, in which Rice explored the role music played in the development of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, a historically black university. "The book was kind of the catalyst for change," Rice explains. "Ever since that point,

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I've grown."

And grown he has. Rice has co-taught a class on race and culture and co-chaired the President's Commission on Racial Equality at UVM, and his research with advisor Dr. Barry Finette in the Department of Pediatrics was recently accepted for publication in *Environmental and Molecular Mutagenesis*. In addition, the American Association for Cancer Research has honored him as a Minority Scholar in Cancer Research, providing his travel expenses to their 93rd annual meeting in San Francisco to present a poster on his work dealing with the genetic effects of chemotherapy on children with cancer, a topic about which he cares a great deal.

"Over the last 30 years, we've had a tremendous increase in the survival rates with specific types of cancers, specifically leukemia," Rice explains. "We want to make sure that the treatment people received as children did not predispose them to other types of malignancies as adults: It would be a sad set of circumstances to cure a kid at the age of 5 only to predispose them to another type of cancer at age 30 or 40."

"He will not let go"

Rice, who hopes to complete his Ph.D. this summer, and Finette are trying to establish and compare the normal amount of damage, or mutations, people accumulate in their DNA as they age with the amount that chemotherapy produces. "Treatments are designed to create damage and kill cells," Rice says. "We are looking at the genetic effects of those treatments and trying to determine if doctors can treat these specific types of cancer in different ways." Preliminary results may indicate that the amount of genetic damage varies according to both the age of the child and the chemotherapy procedure he or she endures.

Outside his research, Rice devotes much time to mentoring younger students. "I have been mentored all my life," he says. Rice carries on the torch by supervising UVM's Summer Enrichment Scholarship Program, which introduces ALANA, first-generation, and low-income students to college life the summer before their first year. Raphael Okutoro, a former student and peer advisor in the program, says, "Everyone respects Sederick. He's a person of action. Because of that, the mission of the program is very well-executed."

Rice, nicknamed "Super Sed" by the students, is not all work and no play. "There were times in the program where people were at their lowest point, and Sederick boosted everyone's energy. He's so funny: Even when you are tired, he will make you laugh," Okutoro says. "Everybody loves him."

Finette agrees that people such as Rice don't come along very often. "Sederick is a unique individual, he always has his own presence." Regarding the *Ebony* article, Finette adds, "He said he was going to do it. He had one try, and, by God, he got in. Power to him."

Okutoro smiles when he remembers one characteristically "Sederick" episode from the ALANA summer program in which students had to work as a team to negotiate a tree-entangled ropes course. "Sederick was the one helping everyone through this process. Even when people fell off, he stood on the rope and extended his hands to everyone else, and he wouldn't let go," Okutoro says. "That's Sederick. When he sets his mind to do something, he will not let go."

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