

# ALUMNI NEWS

## NYSE appoints Reed '60 its chairman and CEO



John Reed '60 was appointed interim chairman and CEO of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in a board shakeup earlier this year. In response to anger over the compensation package received by former chairman and CEO Richard Grasso, Reed, former head of Citibank, agreed to do the job for \$1.

Andy Serwer, Fortune.com and CNN/Money columnist, provided his readers with some of Reed's lesser known background including information on Reed's W&J education, followed by the comment, "Who's ever heard anything about this place?"

Assistant Professor of Accounting, Rick Kinder shared the column with W&J's Office of External Relations. The Office responded by sending Serwer a collection of W&J facts laced with some fun facts to appeal to his irreverent tone. And in his next column, Serwer included all of the information sent to him by the Office of External Relations, including the Presidents' 1922 trip to the Rose Bowl.

As a W&J student, Reed participated in a five-year BA/BS engineering program that resulted in his receiving bachelor's degrees from both W&J and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

### January

17 Washington, D.C. (Penguins vs. Capitals)  
 29 Dallas, Texas (Hosted by Jim Elliott '68)  
 30 San Antonio, Texas  
 31 Houston, Texas  
 30–Feb. 1 Florida (East Coast)

### April

23–25 Detroit/Chicago  
 23–25 Phoenix/Tucson

### February

5–8 Florida (West Coast)  
 28 Alumni Executive Council

### May

22 Commencement/Class of 1954 Reunion  
 28–June 6 Greece (Alumni Travel Experience)

### March

13 Seattle  
 18–21 Atlanta, Jacksonville, and Hilton Head  
 25–29 California (LA, San Francisco, San Diego)

### June

TBD Pirates and/or Wild Things  
 18–19 Norfolk/Charlotte  
 24–27 Niagara-on-the-Lake (Alumni Travel Experience)  
 28 Pete Henry Golf Outing

## Five inducted into Hall of Fame

Washington & Jefferson College welcomed its fifth class into its Eaton/Gentile Athletic Hall of Fame in a September ceremony held at the Rossin Campus Center Allen Ballroom. Five new members were inducted into the Hall of Fame, including three basketball players, one football player, and the first-ever soccer athlete.

**Dave Branchen '91** was a four-year letterwinner and starter for the men's basketball team. He finished his career as the school's all-time leading scorer with 1,552 points, a record which stood for 12 years before it was broken by Nolan Larry '03 last season. Branchen was a three-time All-Presidents' Athletic Conference honoree and a two-time league MVP. He also was a two-year selection to the GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-America All-District team as a double major in business and psychology.

**Cindy Kelly '86** finished her four-year career with the W&J women's basketball team as one of the most accomplished basketball players in school history. She became the first women's basketball player in school history to earn All-America laurels after being named to the American Women's Sports Federation Second Team National All-America squad. Kelly was a four-time First Team All-PAC honoree and a two-time conference MVP. Her 1,517 points is second all-time at the College and her 833 rebounds is the third-highest total in school history. Kelly also led her teams to three consecutive Pennwood Athletic Conference championships.

**Chris Rihn '96** became the first soccer player to be inducted in the Athletic Hall of Fame's five-year history. Rihn, a four-year letterwinner for the men's soccer program, rewrote the school record books. He was W&J's all-time leader in goals (33), assists (22), and points (88) for seven years before his totals were topped by current W&J junior forward Mike Chiodo. Rihn was a

four-time All-PAC selection, earning first-team honors three times and second-team laurels as a junior. He was also named the conference's MVP as a senior. Rihn was a three-time Mid-Atlantic Region Adidas Scholar-Athlete and a two-time GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-American.

**Larry Romboski '59** was a four-year letterwinner for the men's basketball team. Considered one of the top players in the east during his career, Romboski set the school career scoring mark with 1,294 points which stood for 30 years. He still holds the single-game scoring record after pouring in 43 points in 1956 versus Bethany College. Romboski averaged 17.9 points per game for the Presidents in his four years and appeared in 73 straight games, which also broke a W&J record.

**Bob Alessio '66** was honored with the prestigious Robert M. Murphy Award. Alessio played for the W&J football team in 1962 and 1963 under W&J Hall of Fame Head Coach Chuck Ream. Just recently, Alessio completed an inspiring and dramatic "Run Across America" in which he ran 5,282 miles in a 324-day period with only 36 rest days. After first considering running across the country as a personal challenge, Alessio decided to dedicate his journey to the victims and families of the terrorist attacks on the United States following the events of 9/11.

New this year, the E. Ronald Salvitti, M.D., Senior Scholar-Athlete Award goes to a male and female senior from the previous academic year who made outstanding contributions on the field and in the classroom. The Walter C. Cooper Senior Athlete



Left to right are Dave Branchen '91, Bob Alessio '66, Larry Romboski '59, President Mitchell, Cindy Kelly '86, and Chris Rihn '96.

Award is given to the top male and female athletes from the previous academic year as voted by the head coaches in the Athletic Department.

This year's recipients of the E. Ronald Salvitti, M.D., Senior Scholar-Athlete Award were men's water polo and swimming standout **Nemanja Kuzmanovic '03** and women's basketball player **Amy Strosnider '03**. Football and track and field athlete **Todd Fry '03** and women's water polo player and swimmer **Audrey Taylor '03** were each honored with a Walter C. Cooper Senior Athlete Award.

"The College is proud to honor these five former student-athletes who made their marks on the athletic fields at W&J. We are also equally excited about the new tradition of honoring our senior athletes through the E. Ronald Salvitti, M.D., Senior Scholar-Athlete Award and the Walter C. Cooper Senior Athlete Award," said Director of Athletics Rick Creehan.

## SUMMER SEND-OFFS AND GATHERINGS



Incoming students from Westmoreland County and their parents were hosted by members of the Westmoreland County Alumni chapter at the Greensburg Country Club on Thursday, August 14.



Alumni, parents, friends, and students enjoyed a reception in October during the first annual Yale Water Polo Tournament. Over 50 people, including President Mitchell and Maryjane Mitchell were in attendance to watch W&J win the tournament. David White '77 hosted the reception at a New Haven country club.

Visit [www.washjeff.edu/alumni.html](http://www.washjeff.edu/alumni.html) for more photographs.



This summer, alumni from Allegheny County assembled at the Hard Rock Café at Station Square in Pittsburgh to send off members of the Class of 2007 who are from the Pittsburgh area.



## Alums recognized for service and achievements

Alumni play a key role in the overall success of Washington & Jefferson College. They are, through their commitment to the College, as well as in their own successes and achievements, direct reflections of the W&J mission and philosophy. Each year during homecoming celebrations, the Alumni Association recognizes particularly loyal and successful alumni with the Distinguished Service and Alumni Achievement Awards. During this year's alumni dinner, the Alumni Association presented John Brewer '41 and Kenneth Melani '75 with the Distinguished Service Award and Alumni Achievement Award respectively.

### John Brewer '41

Reserved for those who demonstrate great loyalty to the College, the Distinguished Service Award also recognizes a lifelong commitment to service that is a primary goal of the W&J education. This year's recipient, John Brewer, fuels the College's San Francisco Alumni Club, serving as a direct connection between San Francisco and W&J. He is retired after 43 years of service with the telephone company that became AT&T. Brewer is a veteran of the U.S. Navy, having served as chief weather officer in the Aleutian Islands and in Santa Ana, California. Brewer's desire to serve his community of Carmel, California, is inspiring. He has served as a board member of the San Gabriel Council of Boy Scouts



President Mitchell (center) with distinguished alums, John Brewer '41 (left) and Ken Melani '75 (right).

and Pasadena Child Guidance, and also established a group called PIRATES—Persons Involved in Restoring Abilities to the Emotionally Scarred. Brewer volunteers with Community Hospital, the Carmel Foundation, the Tournament of Roses, and Carmel High School.

### Ken Melani '75

The annual Alumni Achievement Award recognizes a W&J graduate whose professional and personal success not only embodies the values of the College, but sets a standard of excellence to which current students can aspire. This year, the Alumni Association honored Ken Melani '75, president and CEO of Highmark, Inc.

After graduating from W&J with a bachelor's in chemistry and biology, Melani, studied at Wake Forest University's Bowman Gray School of Medicine. Board certified in Internal Medicine (ABIM), he is a member of

the Allegheny County Medical Society, Pennsylvania Medical Society, American Medical Association, Pennsylvania Society of Internal Medicine, American Society of Internal Medicine, and the American College of Physician Executives.

As president and CEO of Highmark, Inc., Melani is one of the most influential and respected leaders in the regional medical community—he was instrumental in establishing the funding mechanisms that will allow Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh to expand its services to the regional area from a larger headquarters location in

Lawrenceville. Melani is also active in community service, particularly in the area of children's services, and devotes time to the boards of Holy Family Institute and the Variety Club of Pittsburgh.

President Brian Mitchell joined Alumni Association President Lauren Schwerha Farrell '83 in presenting the awards. Earlier in the ceremony, Farrell was introduced as Frank Botta's '81 successor as the president of the Alumni Executive Council.

"There are those who set the example for loyalty and service—whose passion for the College inspires others and helps W&J carry its goals and values forward in the world," Dr. Mitchell said of the recipients. "We are proud to have John and Ken among the W&J family."

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# explore. dream.

The College is offering two unforgettable experiences for alumni, parents, and friends of the College. Register for one or both travel experiences, both led by beloved W&J faculty, and continue to explore, dream, and discover!

## Greece 2004

May 28–June 6, 2004

Join retired Professor of Art Hugh Taylor on an unforgettable tour of Greece. Professor Taylor led the first W&J Intersession trip to Greece in 1971 and has traveled abroad over 40 times. Let him help you discover the wonderful traditions of Greece.

### INCLUDES:

- Round Trip transportation from Pittsburgh
- Four-night accommodations in first-class hotel in Athens (Four meals included).
- Four-day cruise on Royal Olympic ship based on inside cabin with two lower beds, full board.
- All transfers and transportation by private, deluxe, air-conditioned motor coaches.
- All excursions as per itinerary.
- Professional English-speaking guide
- Luggage and airport portage assistance. (One piece of checked-in luggage per person.)

### COSTS:

Total Cost: \$2989 per person in a double room (single room supplement is an additional \$585)

Immediate Deposit: \$500

For more information on this exciting opportunity, visit [www.washjeff.edu](http://www.washjeff.edu), contact Hugh Taylor at [htaylor@washjeff.edu](mailto:htaylor@washjeff.edu) or the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-888-W-AND-JAY.



## Niagara-on-the-Lake

June 24–June 27, 2004

Professor of English Richard Easton and his wife, Patricia Harrison Easton '74, invite you to spend a weekend with them and W&J friends, parents, and alumni at Niagara-on-the-Lake, the prettiest town in Canada. Located 15 minutes north of Niagara Falls where the Niagara River empties into Lake Ontario, Niagara-on-the-Lake is an unforgettable experience.



### INCLUDES:

- Three nights in the prize-winning Pillar and Post Inn, one of the renowned Vintage Inn properties, which has exercise facilities and a pool
- Three full breakfasts at the Inn
- Gourmet dinner at Pillar and Post's award-winning dining room
- Two Shaw Festival Plays
- Local guide to lead group through the historic sites, including Ft. George
- Tour and lunch at the Hillebrand Winery, famous for its ice wine
- Round-trip on deluxe, air-conditioned bus

### COSTS:

\$675 per adult  
\$350 for a child (age 10–14) in room with parents  
\$500 for a child (over age 14) in room with parents  
Single supplement is an additional \$450

Deposit due immediately: \$335  
Final payment due February 15, 2004: \$348  
Cancellation insurance: \$48

Prices may alter in response to extreme currency exchange fluctuation

For more information on this unforgettable experience, visit [www.washjeff.edu](http://www.washjeff.edu), or contact Richard Easton at [reaston@washjeff.edu](mailto:reaston@washjeff.edu) or the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-888-W-AND-JAY.

# discover.

## Spain/Portugal Trip a Success!

They explored, they dreamed, and they discovered! Alumni, parents, and friends of the College had an amazing adventure as they toured Spain and Portugal with members of the congenial W&J family, including Professor of English Richard Easton and his wife Patricia Harrison Easton '74. Visit [www.washjeff.edu/alumni.html](http://www.washjeff.edu/alumni.html) to see more photographs from this trip.



## 2004 Nominations Welcome

If you wish to nominate an alum for the College's 2004 Distinguished Service Award, the Alumni Award for Achievement, or to nominate an alum to be appointed an Alumni Trustee or a member of the Alumni Association Executive Council, see the nomination form at [www.washjeff.edu](http://www.washjeff.edu) or call the Office of Alumni Relations at 724-223-6079.

## W&J History Quiz

### ANSWER KEY:

1. b. Benjamin Franklin gave 50 pounds to Washington College to start its library in 1789.
2. d. Though women participated in some club sports, such as rifle, the College's first intercollegiate team was women's field hockey in 1974.
3. a. Joseph Walker  
b. Jonathan Letterman  
c. William McGuffey  
d. James Blaine
4. True. Charles "Pruner" West quarterbacked W&J's 1921 Rose Bowl squad, leading them to a scoreless 0-0 tie with California on January 22, 1922.
5. c. The two colleges merged to form their present day union in 1865.
6. 1894 Old Gym  
1793 McMillan Hall  
1948 Mellon Hall  
1965 U. Grant Miller Library  
1940 Lazear Chemistry Building  
1903 Thompson Memorial
7. d. Named for the former leader of the Board of Trustees, Judge John Addison McIlvaine (Jefferson '65), McIlvaine Hall once housed the Washington Female Seminary until acquired by the College in 1940.
8. b. The College became a co-educational institution in 1970, accepting 75 freshmen women in a class of 317.
9. a. While an Army surgeon stationed in Cuba, Dr. Lazear (1888) infected himself with yellow fever and documented its effects upon him until he succumbed to the disease on September 25, 1900. He was posthumously awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor for his sacrifice in 1929.
10. d. Pitt, the reigning 1918 national champions, refused to take the field against Wilbur "Pete" Henry in a 1919 contest, claiming that Henry was allegedly in his fifth year of eligibility.