

CENTRAL

BULLETIN WINTER 06



WWII veterans

A TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED
AND THOSE WHO FELL



President David Roe stands with the memorials to Central's fallen veterans in Central Hall.

This issue of the *Central Bulletin* is a tribute to our alumni and friends who have served this country, especially those named The Greatest Generation. Many of our alumni have contributed to this world in a lot of ways, including making the ultimate sacrifice. During the Civil War, 122 of 124 Central male students went to war with 24 of them giving their lives, the highest percentage of fallen soldiers from any school in any of our country's wars.

Over the years, an array of Central students have been veterans of war. During World War II, several started classes before being summoned to duty. Although not all of Central's students enrolled at the time came back to the college after the war ended, many did and went on to graduate.

Perhaps the greatest impact on higher education was the GI Bill of Rights. Signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944, the bill provided federal aid for returning World War II veterans. The act gave veterans assistance for tuition, subsistence, books and supplies, equipment and counseling services in order for them to continue their education. Enrollment at most American colleges and universities, including Central, increased dramatically.

The effects of increased enrollment on higher education were significant. The GI Bill opened the doors of higher education to a more varied socioeconomic group than in years before World War II and provided a supporting structure, which eased the transition of our veterans from the stresses of combat to becoming leaders and producers in civilian society. Historians generally credit the economic growth and prosperity experienced by the United States in the second half of the 20th century to increased educational levels achieved by veterans as a result of the GI Bill. Educational expectations of U.S. citizens increased in general.

Between 1941 when the United States entered the war and when the war ended in 1945, Central College students actively participated in war relief efforts, such as holding can drives. In February 1941, Central, along with other U.S. colleges and universities, began to sponsor the Collegiate Flight Training Program under the supervision of the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

I personally was affected since four of my first six years of life were without my father who fought in North Africa and Europe and served many months after the war to help restore civil society to France, which had suffered under the military occupation of the Germans.

In Tom Brokaw's book, *The Greatest Generation*, Brokaw writes about World War II from a number of viewpoints including those who served, but there is no way one book could cover all the important stories.

Most veterans in general, particularly those from this time period, haven't told their stories. In this issue, several Central graduates who served in World War II tell their stories.

David H. Roe

CENTRAL BULLETIN

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Central Bulletin is published quarterly by the college relations office for alumni, parents and friends of Central College. Its mission is to inform about Central's programs and people, to strengthen connections to the college and to develop Central's position as a nationally recognized liberal arts college in the Christian tradition.

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Nondiscrimination policy: Central College is committed to being an inclusive community whose members act with consideration for the physical, intellectual and spiritual well-being of all persons. All members of the college community are responsible for creating an atmosphere that fosters openness, mutual respect and diversity (board of trustees, 4/26/03). The above nondiscrimination policy includes, but is not limited to, persons of every ethnicity, race, national origin, ancestry, color, socio-economic class, creed, religion, philosophical belief, marital status, disability, physical appearance, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender expression and identity, and organizational affiliation. Read more at www.central.edu/welcome.

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▲ Bruce Longstreet '49 (above, with part of his extensive military collection) spent four months as a POW in a German stalag.



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▲ Alumni awards were presented at the annual all-alumni Homecoming dinner.

IN THIS ISSUE

Central College Abroad's Wales program moves from Carmarthen to Bangor



Central will move the Wales program from Trinity College in Carmarthen to the University of Wales in Bangor beginning fall semester 2006. Central College Abroad has operated the program at Trinity College since 1976.

During the last three years, Trinity closed several crucial schools and gradually moved from its liberal arts focus to more of a vocational college, making it difficult for abroad students to take courses in a variety of disciplines.

The move still preserves the unique aspects of the current program, including a rural setting and the opportunity to learn about the distinctive Welsh and Celtic cultures. The University of Wales in Bangor offers a range of academics, including the popular outdoor pursuits class.

HUFFMANS RECEIVE AWARDS

Don Huffman, professor emeritus of biology, received the West Lake Friendship Award from Zhejiang Province, People's Republic of China. Wife Maxine, professor emerita of English, received the same award in 1999.

The Huffmans also were selected as Asian Ambassadors by the AdmirAsian awards selection committee in October in Johnston, Iowa.

SINGERS TOUR CHINA

Central's A Cappella Choir and Chamber Singers toured China in May as part of the spring music tour. The group performed in Hangzhou, Shaoxing and Ningbo. A three-day excursion to Beijing completed the trip with the students performing on the Great Wall of China.

Mark Babcock '91, assistant professor of music, directed the concert. Davis Folkerts '60, professor emeritus of music, accompanied on organ, and Mark Hartman, assistant professor of music, played violin. Several alumni and friends joined the group including Tony Braida '89, Sue Brunscheen Cerwinske '74, Eunice Folkerts, Don and Maxine Huffman and Marge Zondervan.

Central students had the opportunity to do exchanges with students from China universities. Central performed and in return, they received a performance from the host schools.

"This trip was a great experience," said Natalie Ruedy '08 of Hastings, Minn. "It was a lot of fun to do an exchange with the other schools. It was beautiful to hear them sing in their native language. China's culture is completely different."

NEW ROOMS DEDICATED

The interdisciplinary general studies laboratory in Vermeer Science Center was renamed the Helen Hislop General Studies Laboratory in honor of trustee emerita Helen Hislop '50. The glass blowing studio in Lubbers Center for Visual Arts was renamed the John Vruwink Glass Blowing Studio.

Hislop joined the faculty of the University of Southern California in 1968 as director of physical therapy. The department grew to national recognition prior to her retirement in May 1998.

Vruwink '58 earned an art degree from Central and a master's from Drake in 1962. He retired in 2002 after teaching at Central for 37 years. Trained in pottery, he turned to glass blowing in the 1970s and was instrumental in developing Iowa's first glass blowing teaching facility.

TRACK AND FOOTBALL FIELD RENOVATION

Nov. 12, Central broke ground on the \$2.5 million track and football field renovation project, which will result in a new version of Fieldturf football playing surface as well as an eight-lane, 400-meter BSS 1000 polyurethane track with wider turns and dual runways for jumping events.

Nearly \$2 million was raised by mid-October. Fund-raising efforts continue in order to reach the \$2.5 million goal. A number of alumni and friends stepped forward and made gifts of \$100,000 and greater. In addition, numerous former football players responded to a call for support from former coach Ron Schipper and made contributions to this project.

The Campaign for Central Phase II cabinet steering committee for the track and football field is led by national chairs Bruce

arships, building renovations, furniture, sidewalks, musical instruments and science equipment. Recent projects include the Maytag patio, campus benches, the Mongolian grill in Central Market and campus carillon bells.

Today, the auxiliary continues to fund important needs of the college, through annual memberships, selling Dutch letters during Tulip Time, baking student birthday cakes and selling the ninth edition cookbook, *A Taste of the World*. The auxiliary is working to fulfill a \$33,000 pledge for installation of state-of-the-art technology in van Emmerik Studio Theatre in Maytag Student Center. In addition, the auxiliary gifts four \$1,000-student scholarships annually.

The auxiliary currently is conducting its membership drive and seeks participation from alumni and friends of the



'63 and Sandy Klein Heerema '62, includes Vern '71 and Diane Norman Den Herder '70, Gary Dirksen '69, Larry and Cathy Pacha, Stan and Gayle Poortinga, Ron and Joyce Schipper, and Dick '50 and Jackie Duistermars Schultz '51.

CENTRAL'S AUXILIARY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The Central College Auxiliary was founded in 1904 after President Lemuel Garrison asked a group of women with interest in Central's welfare to ask if they would raise money for projects that would go unattended otherwise. Throughout its 102-year history, the auxiliary has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for schol-

college, both male and female. Support is needed to allow the auxiliary to continue offering student scholarships and funding campus projects not included in the budget. A minimum donation of \$10 will make a difference. Please make your check payable to Central College Auxiliary and mail to Betty VanZee VanderWaal '52, 806 West 5th St., Pella, IA 50219. Those interested in joining the auxiliary or learning more should contact Diane Vass Wegter '73 at 641-628-3098. With your help, the auxiliary can continue its vital work for Central College. ■

Connect with Central



CENTRAL CONNECTIONS

Interested in joining Central Connections? JUST SAY YES.

Central Connections, a piece of the alumni community, is an online database of Central College alumni willing to serve as contacts on career issues for Central students and other alumni. This joint effort by alumni relations and the Career

Center recognizes alumni are great resources for current students and for each other.

Central Connections works because:

- students benefit greatly from alumni advice and professional stories;
- alums can contact other alums when relocating, changing jobs/careers;
- it's an easy and rewarding way to give back to the college.

This is not a job service. Certainly, if alums know of internships or employment opportunities at their places of work and can advise about applying, that's great. But the intent is to assist students and alums by offering information about occupations and career fields; advice regarding the job market, organizations to join and graduate school programs; and

tips for relocating to a certain city or region or improving résumés.

Your profile information is password protected through the alumni community. Students and alumni initiate contact via e-mail, which remains private until you respond. Being included does not guarantee you will be contacted. Contact depends on interests of students and alumni and usage of the database.

TO SIGN UP: Call 800-447-0287, e-mail alumni@central.edu or visit the alumni community at <https://www.central.edu/alumni/community/index.cfm>.

CENTRAL COLLEGE LICENSE PLATES

Live in Iowa and want a new way to show off your Central pride? We're gauging interest in having state-issued Central College license plates. We need 500 orders to make this work. Tell us what you think. Call the alumni office at 800-447-0287 or e-mail alumni@central.edu.

If the response is favorable, we'll proceed. Estimated cost is \$25 for numbered plates and \$50 for personalized plates.

ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Central College alumni office currently is accepting nominations for 2006 alumni awards including alumni achievement, alumni stewardship and service, Mr. and Mrs. Alumni, fellowship of service, young alumni achievement and honorary alumni.

For more information including award descriptions, past winners and an online nomination form, go to www.central.edu/alumni and click on alumni awards or log onto the alumni community. Deadline for nominations is March 1.

HOMEcoming/FAMILY WEEKEND 2006

It's the busiest weekend of the year so get your hotel reservations early. Central College Homecoming and Family Weekend, combined for the first time, will be held Friday-Sunday, Sept. 29-Oct. 1.

2006 UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Saturday, Feb. 11

Thursday, Feb. 23

March

Friday-Saturday, March 3-4

Friday-Friday, March 10-17

Sunday-Saturday, March 12-18

Friday-Saturday, March 24-25

Saturday, April 1

Friday, April 7

Thursday-Saturday, May 4-6

Friday, May 12

Saturday, May 13

Sunday, May 14

May

Washington, D.C.

Alumni Day at Kuyper Gym

Atlanta, Ga.

GOLD event

Kansas City, Mo.

National Advisory Council Meeting

Central softball in Los Angeles, Calif.

Central men's golf in Phoenix, Ariz.

Central baseball in Phoenix, Ariz.

Alumni Advisory Council meeting

Softball reunion for '91 national

championship team, alumni day

Disney's *The Lion King* at the Civic

Center of Greater Des Moines

Tulip Time

Senior banquet

Baccalaureate

Commencement

Chicago, Ill.

Ames

New York City, N.Y.

UPDATE YOUR

Have you moved, changed jobs, had a child, etc.? Keep the alumni community up to date by filling out this form and returning it to the alumni office. Or, log onto www.central.edu/alumni/community.

INFO!

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

New information _____

The Dutch football team hosts Wartburg Saturday, Sept. 30 at 1 p.m. Class years ending in "1" and "6" will celebrate reunions, beginning with 1956 and ending with 2006. For Pella lodging information, visit www.pella.org.

OUR NEWEST ALUMNI

The class of 2006 will be honored at a senior banquet Friday, May 12, in the

Graham Conference Center at 5 p.m. Baccalaureate at First Reformed Church Saturday, May 13, at 2 p.m.

Commencement will be held in Kuyper Athletic Complex due to the construction of the new football field and track. The ceremony is Sunday, May 14, at 2 p.m. ■

2005 CENTRAL COLLEGE Alumni awards

Rev. Willis '34 and
Jennie Keuning
VanderKooi '38



Lois Sorenson
Boeyink '74



Eunice Kuyper Folkerts



Betty Brands Huitsing '49



Clay Thompson '90



Carl and Dody Boat



Central's alumni awards were presented at the all-alumni Homecoming dinner Oct. 8. This year's award winners were Rev. Willis '34 and Jennie Keuning VanderKooi '38, Mr. and Mrs. Alumni; Lois Sorenson Boeyink '74, Alumni Achievement Award; Eunice Kuyper Folkerts, Fellowship of Service Award; Betty Brands Huitsing '49, Alumni Stewardship and Service Award; Clay Thompson '90, Young Alumni Achievement Award; and Carl and Dody Boat, honorary alumni of the college.

MR. AND MRS. ALUMNI

Rev. Willis '34 and Jennie Keuning VanderKooi '38

Mr. and Mrs. Alumni represent a Central College alumni couple who enthusiastically have supported the mission of the college. Rev. Willis '34 and Jennie Keuning VanderKooi '38 were this year's Mr. and Mrs. Alumni.

Jennie, a 1931 Pella High School graduate, and Willis, a 1930 Boyden High School graduate, have been married 68 years. Jennie taught in country schools, and Willis graduated from Western Seminary in 1937. They retired from active ministry in 1975 and settled in Orange City. During retirement, they provided interim service and Willis served as a lobbyist to the Iowa State Legislature on elder affairs. In 1997, they moved to

Broomfield, Colo., where they currently reside.

Perhaps one of their greatest gifts to the college is their six children, all graduates of Central College, including Paul '61, John '64, Jane '67, Carl '67, Lois '74 and Ruth '82.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Lois Sorenson Boeyink '74

The 2005 Alumni Achievement Award is given to an alum who has demonstrated exceptional achievements in a professional career. This year's recipient, Lois Sorensen Boeyink '74 of Pella, was named the 2004 National Association of Sport and Physical Education teacher of the year. She has been teaching physical education to kindergarten through sixth grade students in Newton for 25 years. During that time, she received a master's degree and is only one of three in the state to earn the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification in Early and Middle Childhood Physical Education.

She has served in many capacities in state and district physical education associations and mentored candidates for the National Board for Professional Teaching Certification. This year, she begins serving on the national steering committee for Health Related Fitness of American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.



Boeyink is married to Gary '59, a long-time former coach and associate professor of exercise science at Central.

FELLOWSHIP OF SERVICE AWARD

Eunice Kuyper Folkerts

The Fellowship of Service Award is presented to non-alumni in the Pella area, who have provided significant support to the college to enhance its educational mission. Eunice Kuyper Folkerts of Knoxville, Iowa, is a 1952 graduate of Hope College and is this year's recipient. Born and raised in New Brunswick, N.J., Eunice taught school from 1953-59. She is past president of the Pella Historical Society, a member of the Historic Pella Trust, Iowa Historical Foundation Board, Iowa State University Board of Governors, an advisory board member of Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, and a former board member of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary and Iowa Commission on the Status of Women.

Folkerts serves on the campaign cabinet for *The Campaign for Central* and served on past advisory campaign boards. She donated land to the Iowa National Heritage Foundation, which was deeded to the college and is now known as the Carlson-Kuyper Field Station.

She is married to Davis Folkerts '60, professor emeritus of the Central College music department.

ALUMNI STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD

Betty Brands Huitsing '49

The Alumni Stewardship and Service Award goes to an alum who shows exceptional stewardship and service to the college and demonstrates the spirit of the mission of Central College in his/her environment. Betty Brands Huitsing '49 is this year's winner of the Alumni Stewardship and Service Award.

A sociology major, Huitsing's journey after Central College took her to Cicero, Ill., where she taught in a private school. She received a master's degree from

National-Louis University, Evanston, Ill. A member of PEO, Huitsing serves as an elder in her church, a leader in a large women's ministry program and is a Stephen Minister. She is a member of Central's Alumni Advisory Council and was a reunion chair for Homecoming.

Huitsing and husband Jay live in Oro Valley, Ariz.

YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Clay Thompson '90

Clay Thompson '90 received the Young Alumni Achievement Award, an award presented to an alum who has graduated from Central College in the last 15 years and has demonstrated significant professional and/or personal accomplishments since graduation.

An English major, Thompson earned a juris doctorate from the University of Iowa College of Law. The Jefferson, Iowa, native practiced with the law firm of Lane and Waterman in Davenport, Iowa, for four years before joining the legal department of Caterpillar Inc. in 1997. He held various positions within the legal department at Caterpillar's Peoria, Ill., headquarters from 1997 to 2000, during which he obtained a master's degree from the University of Chicago with concentrations in economics and international business. In January 2000, Thompson and family relocated to Singapore where he assumed the position of Caterpillar's Asia-Pacific Counsel, which is responsible for Caterpillar's legal counseling and compliance in the Asia-Pacific theater. In 2003, he accepted the role of general counsel for Caterpillar's Financial Products Division, headquartered in Nashville, Tenn. Last year, he became Caterpillar's emerging markets strategy integration director and relocated to Beijing, China.

Thompson and wife Amy have two children Eleanor, six, and Clay, five.

HONORARY ALUMNI

Carl and Dody Boat

Because of their attendance at a variety of college activities, involvement with the college's programs, financial support, and expressed interest in and dedication to the college's well being, and because of their loyalty, Carl and Dody Boat are now honorary alumni.

Both are lifelong residents of Pella, graduates of Pella High School and Iowa State University, and pillars of the Pella community.

Carl spent time in the military at Officer's Training School in Fort Sill, Okla., and the artillery following school, for a three-year engagement stationed in Germany. Following active duty, Carl served in the Iowa National Guard beginning in 1958 and was discharged in 1971 as a captain. He was employed in summer programs with Vermeer Manufacturing from 1948-1953 and following their time at Iowa State and in the military, he returned there in 1958 in sales as a territorial representative on the East Coast before becoming sales manager in 1962. In 1970, he was appointed vice president of sales and marketing and remained part of the management staff until 1986, at which time he retired from the company but stayed involved in the interests and management as an outside director.

Carl and Dody have been involved in a number of civic activities, particularly those relating to Pella's background and heritage. Carl was appointed to the Central College board of trustees in 1968 and has been chairman of the board since 1991, ending his service in 2005.

The Boats' contributions to the college and the community have enhanced the Central College experience for graduates and their families. ■

Complete bios of all award winners can be found at www.central.edu/alumni.

Football team back on top



It's hard to term any achievement by one of the nation's top football programs a surprise, but few anticipated Central's quick return to prominence under second-year coach Jeff McMartin.

Picked to finish fifth after returning just seven starters from a 6-4 club, the Dutch were 9-1 and shared a record 27th league title with Coe. Central gained a record 17th NCAA Division III playoff berth.

◀ Vance Schuring was the league MVP.

Fans sensed something special on opening day. Battling highly regarded Augustana (Ill.) in overtime, the Dutch stole a victory on a bold two-point conversion on the game's final play.

Central yielded 539 yards of offense the following week at Bethel (Minn.) but made a last-second goal-line stand in a 29-21 win. The team's rise was ultimately legitimized with its first victory at Wartburg since 1997, a 37-20 stunner Nov. 5.

Despite being outgained by an average of 349.6 yards to 333.8, Central somehow retained the upper hand on the scoreboard.

"You've really got to give credit to the players and the coaching staff for giving it everything they had and continually working to get better," McMartin said.

Central had several difference-makers, most visibly at running back where sophomore Vance Schuring received Iowa Conference MVP honors in his first season with the Dutch after being injured a year ago. He rushed for 1,303 yards on 274 carries in 10 regular-season games, averaging 4.8 yards an attempt with 16 TDs.

Also earning first-team all-league honors were senior offensive tackle Ryan Johnson, junior punter Brant VerMeer, junior kick returner/defensive back Brett Doud and sophomore linebacker Andrew Lehn. Senior center Derek Haugen was a second-team choice.

VerMeer led the league in punting with a 40.0-yard average while Doud was tops in interceptions with five and Lehn racked up 119 tackles, the second-highest total in school history.

10 VOLLEYBALL TITLES IN A ROW

Extending its Iowa Conference match winning streak to 37, the Central volleyball team notched its 10th consecutive league crown.

It was the 15th volleyball title overall for the Dutch, who also earned their 10th NCAA Division III tourney berth.

Senior middle hitter Katie Pederson was named the league MVP, with 2.55 kills and 1.11 blocks per game while hitting .297. Junior right-side hitter Tessa Prati and sophomore middle hitter Katie Johnson joined her on the first team, while sophomore setter Terri Berger was a second-team choice. Kent Clayberg shared coach of the year honors for the second time in his three seasons.

After a 13-8 start, the Dutch won 13 of the final 14 regular-season matches, including a pair of three-game sweeps in the conference tournament.

St. Thomas edged Central in five games in NCAA regional play at St. Paul, Minn. The Dutch lose Pederson, outside hitter Alex Costigan and right-side hitter Robin Bowers to graduation.

SECOND-HIGHEST WIN TOTAL EVER FOR MEN'S SOCCER SQUAD

After getting hit hard by graduation a year ago, some feared the Central men's soccer team wouldn't be the same in 2005.

As it turns out, the Dutch were even better.

An influx of young talent brought in by Central's head coach, Garry Laidlaw, helped produce a 15-3-1 record, the pro-

gram's second-highest win total ever. Central placed second in the Iowa Conference, and likely only a 2-1 loss to Loras in the league tourney semifinals kept the Dutch from receiving their first NCAA Division III playoff berth.

Senior defender Conrad Vernon was a four-time all-Iowa Conference selection. Sophomore forward Cody Stoerner, who led the Dutch with 13 goals and 10 assists, also was a first-team pick. Senior back Nick Mohwinkle, freshman midfielder Cruz Herr and sophomore midfielder Blake Scott were second-team selections.

CENTRAL CLIMBS TO THIRD AT LEAGUE CROSS COUNTRY MEET

Three Dutch runners earned all-Iowa Conference honors as the men's and women's cross country teams recorded strong third-place finishes at the league meet.

After finishing fourth in the league the past two years, the Central men recorded their highest finish since placing third in 1992. Junior Adam Wolf placed fourth, Central's first top-five individual finish in 11 years, and senior Bryan George also gained all-league honors.

An inexperienced Central women's squad was surprisingly successful. Jill Rozendaal had a stellar senior season and finished sixth in the league after making a run at the top spot. Nicki Thomas, who headed a talented freshman class, was 19th with senior Heidi Rathje 22nd.

At the NCAA Division III central regional meet, the men climbed to ninth, the team's highest finish since 1994. George garnered all-region honors.

"With the guys we have returning next year, I think we have a chance to be ranked nationally," Bovee said of his rapidly progressing program.

FOUR EARN ALL-CONFERENCE TENNIS HONORS

A young Central College women's tennis team made a surprising late surge

before posting a fourth-place finish at the Iowa Conference tournament.

Four Dutch players earned all-conference recognition. Junior Kristin Kovar, freshman Hillary Baehr, sophomore Katie Moklestad and sophomore Whitney Visser each were cited.

Kovar had a strong year at No. 1 singles and received team MVP honors for the Dutch, who posted a 5-8 record in a challenging dual meet schedule.

HOEKSTRA AN ALL-LEAGUE WOMEN'S GOLF PERFORMER

Junior Sharilyne Hoekstra gained all-Iowa Conference women's golf honors as the Dutch took fifth in the team standings.

Second-year coach Jodee Schaben's squad made an early run at a loftier finish but couldn't hang on. Yet with four of the top five players slated to return next fall, Schaben senses the Dutch are ready to make a move.

Hoekstra shot 83-80-89-84 — 342 to place eighth in the 72-hole tourney. Junior Brooke Bachelder was 15th at 347, freshman Jordan Williams was 26th at 362, junior Jessica Monical was 27th at 363 and senior Amy Ugulini was 32nd at 373.

WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM LOOKING TO FUTURE

After a 7-1 start, injuries and inexperience proved a hindrance down the stretch for the Central women's soccer team.

Closing at 7-13, second-year coach Rick Burns nonetheless saw glimpses of promise for the young program as his resolute turnaround efforts continue.

The Dutch graduate three seniors: Myra Applegate, Tasha Schill and Alisa Scarow but among the returnees offering hope are junior goalkeeper Ashley Veigelt, who earned all-conference recognition for the second time, and sophomore forward Tori Rittman who had 11 goals and five assists.

"One positive thing we have to build on is, except for one game, we were competitive with everybody we played," Burns said. ■



WWII

the war in their words

HERE WE HONOR THOSE FROM
CENTRAL COLLEGE WHO SERVED OUR
COUNTRY IN FOREIGN WARS. WITH SPECIAL
REMEMBRANCE TO THOSE WHO MADE
THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

“THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IS
WILLING TO ACCEPT FREEDOM
LIKE THEY DO ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT SERVICE.
AND IT’S NOTHING LIKE THAT. IT JUST DOESN’T COME
THAT WAY. AND IT’S NOT PROTECTED THAT WAY.”

— Bruce Longstreet '49

Former NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw specially named World War II heroes “The Greatest Generation.” In his book by the same name, Brokaw presents endless personal accounts, anecdotes and memories from the generation that came of age during the Great Depression and World War II. Shaping modern-day America, the soldiers, men, women and children who lived through World War II were everyday Americans going through extraordinary circumstances. Over 600 Central students, faculty and staff joined the military and 21 gave their lives in active duty. There were approximately 500,000 U.S. deaths during the war.

Following the war, the GI Bill of Rights, which provided greater educational opportunities to returning World War II veterans, was signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt June 22, 1944. The bill provided federal aid to help veterans adjust to civilian life in education, hospitalization, and home and business purchases. This act assisted with tuition subsidizing books and supplies, equipment and counseling services for veterans to continue their education. Partially because of this act, Central’s enrollment swelled to 601 in 1946 when just two years earlier enrollment was 215. Within the following seven years, nearly eight million U.S. veterans received educational benefits with approximately 2.3 million attending colleges and universities.

In the next few pages, three Central veterans tell their individual stories of that time — a time when the world was in chaos and Central, along with most communities, was struggling with change.



As a young man, Bruce Longstreet '49 had a long life ahead of him. Growing up in New Sharon, Iowa, Longstreet decided to attend Central College in Pella, 15 miles away. He received a scholarship and started classes in the fall of 1942.

He felt comfortable at Central, even though he hadn't ever been away from home.

“Central was a good pick for me,” he said.

Things changed when he was drafted in 1943 after completing a program called Army Specialized Training. He was sent to Fort Benning, Ga., for infantry training and moved to Camp McCain, Miss., for a few more months of training.

Longstreet was one of 20,000 men in the 94th Infantry Division and headed overseas to Scotland, then to England and finally France.

Battle of the Bulge

“I became a prisoner of war (POW) during the Battle of the Bulge in 1945,” explained Longstreet.

The Germans attacked Belgium and after a somewhat unsuccessful first round at Bastogne, the Germans regrouped and tried a second attack where Longstreet's unit was located.

“We were sitting out there and caught the blunt of their 12th armored outfit,” he said. “They shot us up

pretty bad, and they would, too, since they had more tanks in town than we had men.”

Longstreet’s lieutenant finally surrendered and Longstreet and others were taken as prisoners of war.

“Being a POW certainly wasn’t a piece of cake,” said Longstreet, who lost close to 100 pounds over five months.

“POWs didn’t get much to eat, you see,” he said. “The Germans weren’t even taking care of their own people by this time in the war.”

The POWs were served what resembled coffee in the morning — roasted, crushed barley.

“It was dark water — had no taste,” he said. “Some of us drank it, but normally we used it to wash since we got so little water.”

Lunch was a piece of German black bread, which consisted of bruised rye grain, sugar beets, tree flour (saw dust), leaves and straw.

“We got about a 1/6 to 1/15 of a loaf.”

The final meal of the day was usually bug-infested soup.

“It was good to eat bugs,” said Longstreet. “You at least knew you were getting your protein.”

Longstreet never saw soap, a piece of toilet paper, blankets or medicine. The winter of 1944-45 was the coldest winter on record in Europe.

“I almost thought I was going to freeze to death.”

Longstreet’s experiences shape his life today.

“The funny thing is, I still feel dirty after 60 years,” he said. “I always want to take a shower. And, I buy toilet paper by the case and get the best I can buy. I’ve got the best toilet paper in town.

“You learn to appreciate the little things. You appreciate the things you didn’t before. But, you forget a lot of the hard things, too. I think about it a lot.

“The indignities that man can bestow upon man, I’ve said this a thousand times, I just can’t understand how a person can knock another man down with a rifle and the things that go on. Sometimes guards would shoot you if you couldn’t keep up. Other times they would get you help. It just depended. I just cannot understand it all.”

Train rides, loaded into the infamous boxcars, were maybe the worst part of being a POW for Longstreet. With so many people packed in the cars, there wasn’t room to lie or sit. The longest ride took seven days and six nights equaling 180 miles.

“We had some who died, not by the thousands though,” said Longstreet. “I remember we sat on the bodies once they froze.”

Rescued

Near the end of Longstreet’s imprisonment, he could hear waves of bombers flying over the POW camp. The morning of Monday, April 16, 1945, the British 7th Armored “Desert Rats” came through the fences and rescued the POWs.

“It was a great occasion,” Longstreet said. “One man even died from excitement. I can’t remember cheering or hugging anybody. It was all done. We were liberated.”

Homecoming

Longstreet remembers coming home. It was 5:30 a.m. when the train arrived, and he realized the toll the war took on the people back home.

“I got off the train in New Sharon, and I was so happy to come home and so glad to see my mom and dad at the train station,” he said. “I just remember thinking how old my parents looked.

“It wasn’t just those fighting. Families at home suffered, too. It’s important to remember the war couldn’t have been won without the home front.”



Left: The Bible Longstreet surprisingly was allowed to keep while a prisoner.

Above: A gaunt photo of Longstreet, 100 pounds lighter, shortly after liberation in 1945.



“I GOT OFF THE TRAIN
IN NEW SHARON,

AND I WAS SO HAPPY TO COME HOME AND SO GLAD TO
SEE MY MOM AND DAD AT THE TRAIN STATION ... I
JUST REMEMBER THINKING HOW OLD MY PARENTS LOOKED.”

After the war

For 45 years, Longstreet barely spoke about the war. It wasn't something any of the young veterans who returned to college did. In fact, Longstreet still is finding things out about his roommate and classmates years later.

"When I came back to Central, the guys and I would sit around and play cards but we never really said anything about our time overseas," he said. "No one came back and said, 'Well, I was in the infantry ... ' You just didn't come back and talk about it.

"It's not conducive to fun — you wouldn't want to do it over, but it was just something that we did. I'm not insulted or embarrassed about it."

After graduating from Central in 1949, Longstreet taught in Gilman, Iowa, with other Central graduates before moving to Des Moines. He was a partner and

later owner of American Abstract Company for several years and sold the business 21 years ago when he retired.

Freedom

"The American public is willing to accept freedom like they do any other government service. And it's nothing like that. It just doesn't come that way. And it's not protected that way," Longstreet said.

"There's been such a tremendous price paid by so many people; so many heroes are dead. The atomic bomb and what great sinners we are ... if it hadn't have been for Pearl Harbor, there wouldn't have been a need for the atomic bomb. If the Americans hadn't stepped in and helped England, we wouldn't have the great freedom and liberties we have today."



Two years, nine months, 27 days, five hours and 15 minutes.

That's how long Clyde Evers '49 was enlisted in the military.

"It was no big deal," Evers said of his career in the Army.

After one year of classes at Central, Evers was called to active duty March 10, 1943. He had a notice to report to Camp Dodge at noon and took a train from Des Moines to Sacramento, Calif. Once in Sacramento, he had five hours before his next train so he walked to the capitol at 3 a.m. and got back to the station by 5 a.m. Evers, the only Iowan, boarded a train at 8 a.m. to Marysville, Calif., at Camp Beale.

Evers was part of the 273rd field artillery battalion.

"I was an observer and was transferred out of the artillery into the 593rd joint assault signal company (JASCO) which had men in it from the Army, Air Force, Navy and signal corp."

Although in the Army, Evers directed naval gun fire in combat

working with the Army Air Force and the Navy. He trained for his position at Coronado Island, across the bay from San Diego, Calif.

Life overseas

Evers described a harrowing experience while in Okinawa and called it the only real battle he was in.

"We moved forward quite a ways and then all of a sudden we stopped. The Japanese were shooting phosphorus shells at us. Intelligence was telling us the Japanese didn't have phosphorus shells, so they were blaming me with the artillery or someone else while we fought for shelter. We decided to retreat and head backwards," he said.

"That same day, we went back to camp and a shell landed right in the middle of a jeep. Everybody was a little jittery and thought the Japanese were coming after us. We stayed up all night watching, each of us taking a shift. There was a young kid out of Chicago, and this was his first experience in combat. He worked from 2-6 a.m."



Evers' World War II victory medal. }

"I WAS HESITANT BECAUSE I

DIDN'T WANT TO GET INTO A CAR ACCIDENT ...

I HAD COME ALL THIS WAY,
NOW I JUST WANTED TO
MAKE IT HOME SAFELY."

— Clyde Evers '49

nd, T.H. : 28 July 44: Oahu Is.
nd, T.H. : 1 Sept 44: Maui Is.
nd, T.H. : 5 Sept 44: Oahu Is.
Marshall Is. : 15 Sept 44: Eniwetok
Admiralties Gp : 23 Sept 44: Manus Is.
nd, P.I. : 14 Oct 44: Leyte Isl.
New Guinea : 12 Nov 44: Hollandia
er, New Britain: 21 Nov 44: Cape Gloucester
Admiralties Gp : 9 Dec 44: Manus Is.
nea : 15 Dec 44: Lae, New Guinea
Admiralties Gp : 18 Dec 44: Manus Is., Ad.
P.I. : 31 Dec 44: Luzon Island
: 31 Jan 45: Leyte Island
Okinawa Shima
Leyte Island, P.
Luzon Island, P.
San Francisco, C



Francis L. Evers
FRANCIS L. EVERS
Major



A composite picture of the Central College faculty and class of 1942.

If you would like to share an experience of your time in service,
e-mail bulletin@central.edu.

For a list of alumni who have served in the military, go to
www.central.edu/alumni/bulletin.

**CALLING ALL
VETERANS**



CENTRAL AND THE WAR

This excerpt was taken from the column "Opinions voiced on this war" the Dec. 12, 1941, issue of *The Central Ray*.

"In President Roosevelt's clarion call to arms last Tuesday night, two statements more than any others point beyond the immediate holocaust. We must abandon 'once and for all the illusion that we can ever again isolate ourselves from the rest of humanity.' 'We are going to win the peace that follows.' To stop short of these objectives will make this awful war as meaningless as the last one. A nation endowed and blessed as ours cannot long shirk its responsibilities in the large family of nations. We, a peace loving people, can best realize our own securities through helping others to obtain theirs. The peace must provide adequate machinery for such cooperation and all nations including the United States must facilitate its operation."

— Dr. L. Nanes, head of history department

Evers woke up to gunfire.

"The kid from Chicago fired his gun," Evers said.

"Something spooked him, and we told him to keep watching."

The next morning Evers and the others woke up and investigated. Over the terraces was a vegetable garden with a bullet hole in a head of cabbage.

"The moonlight reflected off the cabbage like it would a helmet," said Evers. "He didn't get to live that one down."

After his time in Okinawa, Evers went back to the Philippines. Shortly after, the deadly atomic-bomb dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, Aug. 6 and 9, 1945.

"I listened to Gen. Douglas MacArthur talking to the Japanese; of course, no one could understand what was being said on the Japanese side."

Homeward bound

Christmas Day, 1945, Evers' ship arrived in San Francisco.

"In my eyes, there was a great big red ribbon on the Golden Gate Bridge as the ship arrived in San Francisco," said Evers. "What a lovely Christmas present."

The troop had its final meal on board. Two lines served creamed chicken for the

Christmas meal and only one line came down with food poisoning. Evers was fortunate he was in the non-contaminated line. After several hours, they were finally allowed off the ship. Evers went straight for the Red Cross tent, which was offering fresh milk.

"I hadn't had fresh milk since I left (the states)," he said. "It was so good. Best milk I've ever had."

Evers appreciated food, especially fresh fruits and vegetables. He remembers eating bananas and playing cards waiting for his ticket home in San Francisco.

"I was eating a whole bunch of them — all different kinds," he said. "One day I counted how many I ate, and I counted 56 peels. I couldn't believe it. And I probably ate three square meals that day as well."

Evers took a train from the Bay of Pitts, Calif., to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he was discharged at 5:15 p.m. He then hitchhiked to Des Moines and took the bus to Pella the next morning. In Pella, he was greeted by one of his friends at the bus station who asked if he needed a ride home.

"I was hesitant because I didn't want to get into a car accident," he said. "I had come all this way, now I just wanted to make it home safely."

Evers accepted the ride and was dropped off in front of his house at 125 W. 1st St. in Pella. He walked in and sat down on the sofa.

"Mom, I'm home. I made it."



Evers in uniform with field artillery and carbine marksman insignia.

IOWA'S WWII MEMORIAL

Built in 1994-96 and dedicated Nov. 11, 1996, the World War II Freedom Memorial at the state capitol in Iowa became the first WWII state memorial in the United States.

"And, we're proud of it," said Bruce Longstreet '49, who helped spearhead the project.

The purpose of the memorial is to honor those who served during WWII and to provide posterity with knowledge about the compelling reason for the United States' involvement in the war, and the preservation of freedom around the world.

The centerpiece is a freedom flame monument 50-feet high made of stainless steel. Leading to the flame is the freedom walk, a walkway through time with historical facts starting with the 1930s. The monument features a wall of memories over 60 feet long and made up of stainless steel panels with reproductions of letters and documents. The center sections honor Iowa's nine men who received the Congressional Medal of Honor. The plaza floor is comprised of a global map showing the five major theaters of operation.

According to Longstreet, everything is paid for by funds raised by the committee, including the maintenance fund and a flower fund.

"It really is quite the sight," he said.



After the war

The GI Bill helped Evers continue his education.

"It took me seven years to get through college," he grinned. "I started classes in the fall of '42 and graduated in May of '49."

He received \$96 each month. Central cost him \$92 a month and the GI Bill covered tuition and textbooks, but not room and board, which was fine with Evers as he lived at home with his parents Jeanette and Cornelius Evers, professor of biology and physics at Central.

Evers enrolled in Iowa State University's engineering program in the fall of 1947. After one and a half years, he changed direction and returned to Central in the spring of 1949 to be a teacher.

Upon graduation, Evers married Anna Williams '49 and moved to Denver, Iowa, where he taught for nine years before making his home in Marshalltown teaching junior high and high school science and math for 28 years. He retired in 1986.

"The whole thing has been quite an experience," he said. "But things worked out for me, and I'm glad."



As a junior, Howard Lubach '48 entered the service as a reservist in October 1942. It wasn't until December 1945 that he came home.

Lubach became a master sergeant, climbing the ranks from private first class. He received numerous medals including the WWII bronze star and combat infantry badge, the Asiatic/Pacific ribbon with two bronze battle stars, the bronze service arrowhead and the Philippine liberation bronze medal star.

Basic training

Lubach was assigned to basic training along with additional advanced training at Camp Roberts in California and was with the transportation company at Camp Stone.

They shipped out by themselves Dec. 10, 1943, and arrived in New Caledonia Dec. 23 as replacements.

War experiences

Lubach stayed in New Caledonia for a while before going to New Zealand, where he was assigned to the 103rd infantry regiment of the 43rd division, which had been in Guadalcanal.

"They got shot up pretty badly," he said of the company they were sent to replace.

That was another training ground for Lubach and company. The next combat area was New Guinea, three degrees off the equator, where it rained every day.

"In New Guinea, we kept the Japanese bottled up in combat with fire fights and what have you," he said. "There was another division with us and eventually, we decided we could leave New Guinea. With our training, we went to the Philippines on the Island of Luzon in January 1945. Our unit stayed and didn't go into Manila at first. We ended up all over the island."

"One night we had a successful battle," said Lubach.

"Our detachment got in a fire fight with five tanks and we knocked them all out. We were using 57 mm guns and all the other fire power we had. We took care of five Japanese tanks. It was done because it was necessary, as far as I was concerned."

According to Lubach, the Philippines was a country that needed help and that's why the United States was there.

"The Filipinos were under a really tough rule," said Lubach. "We finally got the upper hand and the Japanese surrendered. And I think (my unit) had something to do about it [being attached to a strong fighting unit]."

Lubach believes the Filipinos are better off than before.

"They were glad to see us," he said. "They were thankful we were there to rid them of the Japanese."

After the two atomic bombs dropped in Japan and the armistice was signed, Lubach went into Japan to secure the airfield north of Tokyo.

"One of the striking things we saw when we were on trucks going up the highway, were the Japanese people bowing along the road. You couldn't see eyes or anything else," he said. "All you saw were bowed heads. The site kind of grabbed you. They were totally surrendered."

Lubach was at the airfield for a good month before he boarded a ship headed back to "good ole uncle sugar." On the way, they pulled into Okinawa because of a typhoon. They then sailed to San Francisco.

"The bridge was beautiful sight."

Return to Central

"In many ways, the war was behind us," he said. "As Dr. Nanes, professor of history, used to say, 'Press on.' She certainly had an influence on us. She was one teacher who mentioned those who served and

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

OUR FALLEN HEROES

1941 - 1945

PRO
PATRIA

T/Sgt. Gerald
SCHIPPERS

1945

Lt. John Allan
WIERSMA

1943

Ens. Lloyd F.
WOODHOUSE

1941

Lt. (jg) Gerrit
WORMHOUDT

1929

Lt. Jay S.
BAAS

1946

Lt. Albert
BRUNSTING

1940

Cpt. George
CHALLENGER

1946

S/Sgt. Jack
DAVIS

1941

Pfc. Mitchell
DE KOSTER

1943

Thomas
ERVIN

1942

Ens. John L.
GALBRAITH

1945

Lt. Louis J.
HOEKSTRA

1946

Pvt. Fred
HOLDSWORTH

1938

Joe
HOUSEMAN

1943

Pvt. Melvin
JOHNSON

1937

2nd Lt. Joseph
LAMANSKY

1938

2nd Lt. Paul L.
LEYDENS

1942

Lt. Willis F.
LIMBERG

1939

Lt. Walter
McCAIN

1943

Lt. Dan Ray
MEULPOLDER

1943

Lt. Arie
REMPE

1930

2nd Lt. Delwin D.
ROORDA

1946

HONORING VETERANS



Labor Day weekend, a student group called VETS hosted 33 veterans and their spouses from the Pella area for a weekend in Washington, D.C., to visit the newly dedicated World War II memorial.

The VETS organization was started by veterans Tim Bates '06 and A.J. Christian '07 in October 2004. VETS was organized to help people understand the sacrifices veterans have made and bridge the gap between younger and older generations of veterans.

Bates wanted to help other veterans see the memorials in Washington, D.C., and give back to the veterans who didn't have the funding or initiative to go alone. The group raised \$35,000 for the four-day, three-night outing to the nation's capitol.

"This was just one way to honor the heroes who fought and believed in this country," said Bates. "It's because of these men and women we have the freedoms and privileges we have today."

were in her classes and personally thanked them. It really meant a lot to us."

Being in his mid-20s, Lubach and others were ready for something else once back from war.

"I found a wife at CUI," Lubach said referring to his wife Edie DeWit '49, whom he married in 1947. "There was a friend of mine who used to say Central College was a 'match factory.'"

A lot of veterans attended Central largely due to the GI Bill, Lubach included. It helped change the paths of many.

"We probably didn't study as much as we should have," said Lubach. "But, the returning GIs made an impact on Central. We were there to get an education, get on with our lives and continue to make things better as much as we could. When I first left Central, there weren't a lot of fellows around anymore. When I got back, it was good to see those who were there before the war. Of course, some didn't return."

Lubach believes Central experienced growth as did each and every returnee.

In my eyes

"During WWII, the whole country was at war and it was something we were called to do, and I'm proud of that fact," Lubach said. "It had to be done. I'm glad I made it back, and am thankful for it all."

{ *Central's memorial to its fallen veterans of WWII.*

A few times it looked as if Lubach may not be heading home, but things worked out.

"Sometimes it was a tough go," said Lubach. "I was mindful of the chaplain's corp as far as giving soldiers support. It still brings tears to my eyes."

"I can truly say I was proud to serve my country and still feel that way," he continued. "I'm proud of the U.S.A. The Greatest Generation is what they call us. It's nice to be thought about that way."

There was a feeling of unity in all the troops.

"We weren't separated by Army, Navy, Coast Guard," he said. "It was my fortune to come into contact with all branches in my tour of duty. That's what the United States is all about."

Korea

Lubach graduated with the class of 1948.

"I was two credits shy of graduating on time and had to take summer classes," he said. "I got an emergency teaching certificate and took a job in Boyden, Iowa, in 1947."

Lubach then taught in Sioux Center for 35 years before retiring in the spring of 1983.

After WWII, he stayed in the reserves as unattached/unassigned. However, that got him into the Korean War. He was called up Sept. 24, 1950, and had to leave three days later, Sept. 27, his son Bill's first birthday. Lubach came home in July 1951.

"If I had to do it over again — I would," he said. "I'm glad things happened the way they did for me. War is not a blessing, but blessings come from it." ■

and posters, which promoted the diversity symbolized by the Army. The OWI celebrated the strength of the American people, united by patriotism and democratic values.

The melting pot and its image of American unity only went so far. In the Army, men of Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Philippine descent fought mostly in all-Asian units. Japanese soldiers had to work particularly hard to prove their loyalty to the United States, since all Japanese were viewed as potential spies. African-Americans, too, fought in segregated units. They fought for the “Double V”: victory over Germany and Japan abroad, victory over segregation at home. The separate status of both Asian- and African-American Army units reflected their place in American society. Yet, they fought for freedom and home along with the rest of the country, and by doing so, hoped to participate more fully in American democracy.

Popular entertainment revived with the economy in the early 1940s. American popular culture showered support and encouragement. Society praised baseball players, movie stars and musicians who joined the war effort. With so many baseball players enlisted, major league baseball shut down. Philip Wrigley started the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL), which created new opportunities for female participants.

The rest of the home front mobilized for war, too. People participated in rationing programs, bought bonds, rolled bandages and volunteered time. Women entered the workforce in record numbers, causing perhaps the biggest change on the home front. The majority were married, signifying a new development in the female workforce, which up until 1941 had been dominated by young, single women. Women saw their work as impor-

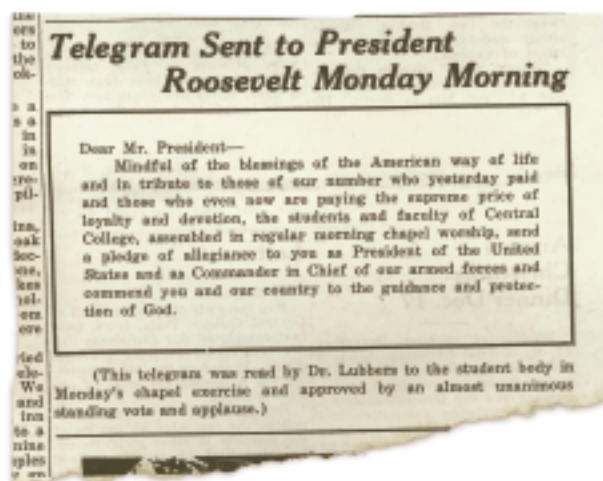
tant for the war effort; their work would bring their loved ones home. Many appreciated the wages and independence their jobs gave them, and while they wanted the troops to come back home, the working women understood they would probably lose their jobs once troops returned.

After the Japanese surrendered in August 1945, the cry to “bring the boys back home” became a reality. Returning veterans came home to people who respected and valued their war-time service, and to a government which, for the most part, greatly expanded their opportunities. Marriage and birth rates skyrocketed, and the demand for homes outstripped the supply. The development of suburbs took place as returning GIs

American veterans who returned to the reservation. In addition, southern African-American veterans were prevented by local authorities from using GI benefits at non-segregated colleges. The bill limited job-training benefits to unskilled work and low-wage service jobs.

With men returning home, women returned home, too. Some were anxious to begin real family life. Others reluctantly gave up wages and freedoms of the workforce. Having gone through the Depression, they enjoyed the economic security of having a job. Yet, American society, as a whole, viewed gender roles in the context of the nuclear family, where the male was the breadwinner and the female took care of the house and children. Women were encouraged to return home and stay there. In the sports world, the AAGPBL survived into the mid-1950s, but succumbed to declining fan support and public interest in major league baseball. Similar to the women war workers, its players returned home, but not without having tasted the world outside the home.

For some women and groups who did not have expectations met through their war-time service, change was in the wind. By the 1950s, women quietly were going back to work, as industrial jobs were plentiful in America’s post-war economy. In addition, the Civil Rights movement took off in the 1950s with the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision and the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. African-Americans pressed for equality and greater participation in American life, a quest begun during the Civil War and continued through World War II. Thus, social change came even for those Americans initially left out of the post-war prosperity. World War II raised expectations of home and freedom and worked to make American society fulfill those expectations when World War II did not. ■



built homes on small lots in subdivisions near major metropolitan centers. The Servicemen’s Readjustment Act, also known as the GI Bill, facilitated home building through low-interest loans for those who served and offered free college tuition. Over one million took advantage in the first year after the war, doubling college enrollments and changing the student body. Getting a college education enabled many from rural and working-class backgrounds to move into professional jobs with paychecks of which they only could otherwise have dreamed about.

However, not all veterans shared equally in the benefits of the GI Bill. For example, benefits did not apply to Native

A letter to home

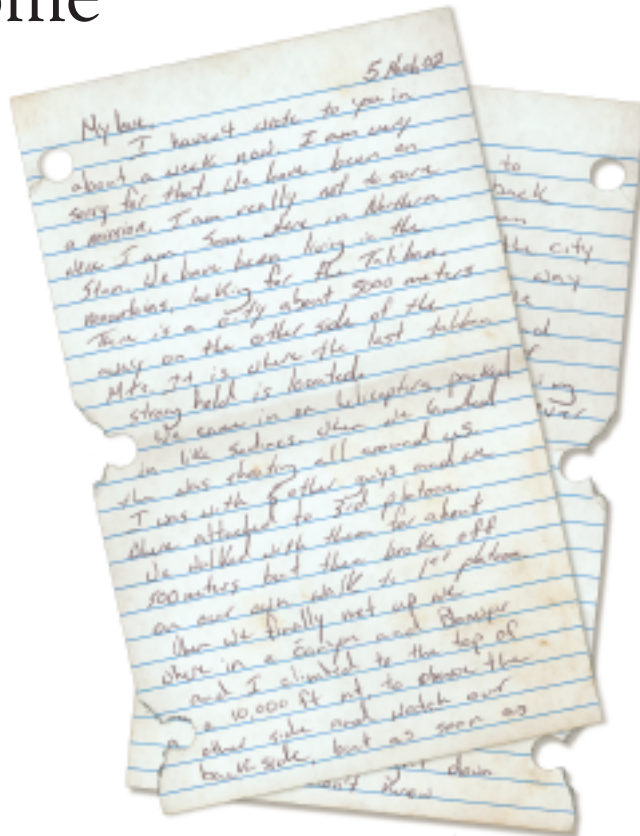
This is an old letter from Tim Bates '06 written to his newlywed wife Anna Swanson Bates '03 in 2002. Tim was stationed in Afghanistan for six months and one day as a specialist in the Army's 101st Airborne Division. He departed for Afghanistan Jan. 14, 2002, and returned July 15, 2002. After returning to the states, Tim and Anna moved to Pella in August where he began classes in the fall of 2002.

March 5, 2002

My love,

I haven't written to you in about a week now. I am very sorry for that. We have been on a mission. I'm really not too sure where I am. Somewhere in northern 'Stan (Afghanistan). We have been living in the mountains, looking for the Taliban. There is a city about 3,000 meters away on the other side of the mountains. It is where the last Taliban stronghold is located.

We came in on helicopters — packed in like sardines. When we landed, there was shooting all around us. I was with five other guys, and we were attached to a third platoon. We walked with them for about 500 meters but then broke off on our own walk to the first platoon. When we finally met up, we were in a canyon, and Blomeyer and I climbed to the top of a 10,000-foot mountain to observe the other side and watch our back side, but as soon as we got there we had



to turn around and go back down because anti-Taliban forces that attacked the city got chewed up on the way in. So as a platoon, we hiked over some mountains and met up with the rest of the company. The next morning, we moved as a company over some more mountains to a hiding position, but the Taliban watched us on the move and pounded us with mortars. We were running from the mortar fire all day long. The whistling sound of the mortar coming in is yet another sound I will never forget.

While all this was happening, the third platoon got stuck kind of in an open area down in a creek bed about 300 meters away. The Taliban dropped a mortar round

right down on them. I don't know how but only one person was hurt. He was messed up pretty bad. Seven other guys and I had to go get him and bring him back to get medevaced. This mission was only supposed to last two days, and we only had food and water for that long. Well, here we are on the fourth day. Maybe we'll get re-supplied.

Hopefully, I'll be able to get out of here soon and back to the phone so I can give you a call. Hope to talk to you soon.

Miss you,

Tim

HOMECOMING 2005



OCTOBER
7, 8 and 9,
2005

- ▲ Clockwise from top left: 1. Ray Martin, professor emeritus of music (left) and David Roe, president, celebrate Martin's retirement with a musical tribute. 2. Harold '65 and Bea Werner DeBie '65 prepare to lead their class onto the track. 3. Melissa Shain Hurley '95 (left) and Tara Wieringa Warren '95 catch up at the reunion dinner. 4. Central students maintaining the annual lemming race tradition. 5. The class of 1960 marching in the Homecoming parade of classes. 6. Central students, alumni and friends enjoy a pre-game meal under the big top.



Central
COLLEGE

812 University Street
Pella, Iowa 50219

