

The Cornell Alumni Sun

MARCH 2003

ITHACA, NEW YORK

12 PAGES

Sun Gets Permanent Home (and a Friendly Landlord)



This recent photo shows the entrance and part of the West State Street facade of the Elks Building, an historic 1916 structure designed in the Arts and Crafts architectural style by Ithaca architects Gibb & Waltz, which will soon begin its new life as the Cornell Daily Sun Building.

BY LARRY ARNOLD '88

Independence has long been a badge of pride for *The Cornell Daily Sun*. It's also brought some headaches.

Twice since 1987, *The Sun* has had to uproot and relocate – first from the historic Colonial Building to below-ground digs next door on the Ithaca Commons, then to its current second-floor location around the corner on South Cayuga Street.

Such worries will soon be a thing of the past. In a milestone shared by alumni and undergrads, the Cornell Daily Sun Alumni Association closed a deal in January to purchase a building for *The Sun* – the first permanent home in *The Sun*'s 122-year history.

The Sun will begin operating out of the building, at 139 West State Street, this summer. The three-level building, half a block west of the Commons, has served as the Ithaca Elks Lodge since its construction in 1916.

The Elks will remain as tenants in the building's basement floor. *The Sun* will operate out of the main floor, after extensive renovations.

The second floor will likely include a boardroom that will double as a library for *Sun* bound volumes, but its premier feature is the hall where the Elks have held their meetings.

Stan Chess '69, president of the alumni association, describes the room as a smaller version of the grand Memorial Room in Willard Straight Hall, with "vaulted ceilings and an old-world look."

He said it seats about 125 people and could be the site of speeches by *Sun* alumni, among other public gatherings. Already he is referring to it as "Alumni Hall."

Beth Herskovits '03, the *Sun* editor-in-chief who worked with the alumni association to close the deal, said the building met the newspaper's two goals: "One was to find a permanent home for *The Sun*, and the other was to find superior space to our current offices."

Chess spearheaded the search for a permanent home about two years ago. The search was concentrated in Collegetown and downtown. The Elks building emerged as "choice number one, and there was no number two," Chess said.

Negotiations with the Elks began more than a year ago.

The building was purchased with \$220,000 in loans, plus \$40,000 collected during periodic *Sun* fundraising drives over the past 15 years.

"We owe a lot of money, but at least we
(continued on page two)

Dick Schaap: Sun Success Story, Sun Friend

Dick Schaap '55 was one of *The Sun*'s proudest success stories, and one of its most loyal friends. *Sun* alumni joined legions of other Schaap friends and fans in mourning the December 2001 death of one of America's leading sports authors and broadcasters. He was 67.

Schaap attended Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations but "majored in *The Cornell Daily Sun*," Jeremy Schaap '91, a noted sports reporter himself, wrote in one of many tributes to his dad.

In his introduction to "The Best American Sports Writing 2000," Dick Schaap wrote that he "always had an eye for athletic talent, and I knew from an early age that I did not have that talent." He was, in fact, a good-enough athlete to be the starting goalie for Cornell's lacrosse team. But sports writing would be his

lifelong pursuit.

At 15, he worked for a daily newspaper, the *Nassau Daily Review-Star*, where his boss was Jimmy Breslin, then a college student and night sports editor.

Schaap brought that experience with him to Cornell. He covered sports for *The Sun* and served as editor-in-chief his senior year. After graduation, he attended the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, then worked for *Newsweek* magazine and *The New York Herald Tribune*.

He became the editor of *Sport* magazine in 1973 and delivered sports reports for WNBC-TV in New York City. His distinguished work on television earned him six Emmy Awards. He also wrote or co-wrote 33 books.

Dick Schaap's affection for *The Sun* continued long after his graduation. He spoke at



Dick Schaap (right) and his son, Jeremy, also a Sun sports editor.

several end-of-year *Sun* banquets, as well as some *Sun* alumni events. Cornell, and *The Sun*, could not have asked for a better goodwill ambassador.

In his farewell to Schaap on December 22,
(continued on page seven)



Dean Miller '83

The Cornell Alumni Sun

March 2003

Larry Arnold '88
Editor

Beth Herskovits '03
Gideon Simpson '03
Contributors

The Cornell Alumni Sun is published by the Cornell Daily Sun Alumni Association with the editors of *The Cornell Daily Sun*. Newsletter editor Larry Arnold can be reached at lia3@cornell.edu. You can contact the Sun alumni association at <http://www.cornell-sun.org>. *The Sun* can be reached by mail at 119 S. Cayuga St., Ithaca, NY 14850; by e-mail at business@cornell-dailysun.com; or by phone at 607/273-3606.

© 2003, The Cornell Daily Sun Alumni Association

A Taste for Small Newsrooms

By DEAN MILLER '83

The Sun ruined me for chain newspapers and for large bureaucracies. I was a reporter and then some kind of flunky mid-level editor there in 1980 through 1983. *The Sun* had just turned 100, and I was awed to be a small-town kid from Vermont writing for E.B. White's first paper.

My training editors were intolerant of slop, passionate about their work, and set a terrifying standard for productivity and energy. My grades and social life suffered, but I found a calling. Being a writer was iffy, but newspaper writing was fun and jobs started to look possible.

In the early 1980s, we all worked in one big messy attic room, communicated by hollering from desk to desk and had so little staff that only the reliable survived. You got it done or it didn't get in the paper.

If you blew deadlines, you got weeded out quickly. If you screwed up a story, people got in your face and held you accountable.

David Wilde, now an editor at *Rolling Stone*, creamed me when I did a rookie job on the song credits of a local musician I profiled. I was humiliated. He was right. And it made me ultra careful in the future.

When I interned at the *Oregonian* in Portland as a junior in college, they had to tell me to stop yelling. This was a professional newsroom. I nearly quit the busi-

ness after that summer because after *The Sun*, the tomblike newsroom of what was then called The Great Grey Lady lacked fire, with a few notable exceptions.

My classmates' stories about spending their entire summer internship carrying coffee around with nary a byline didn't help my attitude toward the metros.

Fortunately, another small hectic newsroom saved me from law school. I was working as a paralegal in Boston and taking the LSATs when my year-old resume floated back to the surface of a city editor's desk. I interviewed, fell in love with Idaho, and have been here since.

After a year in a town you've probably never heard of (Twin Falls ... I hadn't!), I learned that life could be wonderful at small papers. Loads of room for advancement, utter accountability to your peers and readers, and terrific powder skiing, fly fishing, and hiking.

I turned down a job in Cincinnati, costing me my marvelous *Sun* alum girlfriend. Since then, the biggest paper I've written for as a staff member has been the *Spokesman-Review*, a family-owned, 100,000-plus-circulation daily in eastern Washington.

Right now, I'm the managing editor at a little a.m. daily 93 miles southwest of Yellowstone Park, *The Post Register*.

What we lack in resources and Pulitzer-decorated staff we make

up for in passion. Nobody works at papers this size for the fame or the pension. They're committed to the core — in love with this place and paper or quickly gone.

It can be a little rough around the edges, but training beginners and learning to motivate lifers requires all the skills I possess and then some.

Always I carry with me the torch lit at the *Sun*. It has to matter. You have to care that it's right. And it should be fun.

I ski, fish, kayak, hike, and hunt on weekends and have slowly begun to develop a side career writing books. To get there, I freelanced for the *Christian Science Monitor*, *U.S. News*, and some specialty magazines, edited regional travel books, and researched a true-crime book for *Harper*.

Two years ago, I co-authored a wild animals book and I'm now editing my prior co-author on her newest book. We got a little op-ed action in the *Washington Post* and elsewhere, which is helping, too. When there's time, I travel, most recently to Belize and before that to France and Spain.

If you're on the West Coast, stop by the (Poynter) National Writers Workshop in Portland in April. My session: "Small Potatoes, Big Dreams: Writing Well at Small Papers."

Dean Miller '83 was a *Sun* features editor.

Sun Gets Permanent Home

(continued from page one)

now have \$40,000 worth of equity in the building," Chess said. "We could not have pulled this off without the generosity of *Sun* alumni."

Contributions from *Sun* alumni are even more critical now. (See letter from Stan, page 3.) In addition to paying back the loans and paying off the mortgage, Chess said, the alumni association must raise about \$250,000 in the next several months before the undergraduates can move into the building.

The work includes a new heat-

ing and ventilation system, bathroom renovations, wiring for multimedia, and installing a security system.

Gary Ferguson, executive director of the Ithaca Downtown Partnership, joined in celebrating *The Sun*'s new roots. "We really wanted *The Sun* to stay downtown," he said. "I always thought it was very important for *The Sun* to have a community presence."

Only half-joking, Chess has already suggested putting a sign outside the building commemorating what *The Sun* has always been: Cornell's "School of Journalism."



This undated historic photo probably dates from before World War II and shows the original appearance of our new home.

The Cornell Daily Sun Alumni Association, Inc.

PO Box 1503, New York, NY 10021 • 212.861.8048 • www.CornellSun.org

March 1, 2003

Dear Sun Alum,

Now we have to pay for it.

In about three months, America's Oldest Independent College Daily (aka The Cornell Daily Sun) will move to its first permanent home. It took us only a bit more than 12 decades.

The Sun will be to the right of the Ithaca Journal (literally, but not figuratively), around the corner from The Sun's current home on South Cayuga Street, and about half a block west of our longtime home in the Colonial Building at 109 East State.

The move will provide The Sun with much more space, increased technical capability, freedom from the uncertainty of the rental market, and vast growth opportunities. These opportunities will be discussed in future mailings.

Making this happen has required the cooperation of The Sun's senior board (the adults), the Alumni Association (us), and three Sun undergraduate boards (the 119th, 120th, and the incoming 121st).

In the process, two Sun alumni have performed above and beyond.

Schroeder (aka John G. Schroeder '74) has been a godsend to the process. Schroeder, who studied architecture at Cornell, was instrumental in the purchase and is now instrumental in the renovation.

Gary L. Rubin '72 (aka Gary) has done much of the legal work. The most important thing Gary did was obtain 501(c)(3) status. This was no small feat, and means that your contributions are tax-deductible.

Speaking about contributions: Any Cornell Sun memorabilia you contribute to the Alumni Association may also be tax-deductible.

If you have old bound volumes or one of the 10-carat-gold Cornell Sun pins from the 1920s, you may be able to take their fair-market value as a deduction.

You can also contribute copies of the "mustrun" or correspondence from E.B. White or photos of the interior of the Colonial Building or other Sun stuff. Most will likely not be tax-deductible, but they will be appreciated. Many may be framed and displayed. Send them (in a secured mailing) to: Amanda Soule '00, Alumni Treasurer, 139 West State St., Ithaca, NY 14850.

Remember though – As much as we appreciate bound volumes, etc., we can't pay for the building with Xeroxed copies of old mustruns. So please also send money.

1. Please return the enclosed card with payment of your annual dues for the year 2003. The Association is run exclusively by volunteers, and your dues help to defray our costs. Since we did not do a mailing last year, but still had expenses, please consider including dues for the year 2002 as well.
2. Consider adding a contribution for the building fund. We need to raise about \$250,000 in the next several months to pay for the renovations and the carrying costs of the building.

Past contributions from Sun alumni have gotten this project off the ground, and additional generosity is required to make The Sun's permanent home a reality.

If you would like also to send news about yourself or other alums, e-mail the Association at Editor@CornellSun.org or include news on the enclosed form. We'll post your submission on the website.

As for our own news, we have two reunions and one meeting planned.

The Sun's annual New York City reunion is scheduled for Friday, April 18, at the Cornell Club. The Sun's annual Ithaca reunion will be Saturday, June 7. A reception will be held on campus, followed by a party that evening at the Sun Building downtown. Details will be posted on CornellSun.org.

We are planning a meeting in Manhattan, tentatively on Friday, March 21, to discuss the building purchase and various Alumni Association projects. All alumni and undergrads are invited. Details will be posted on our website.

If you can't make the meeting, or if you would like to discuss any aspect of the purchase or any Alumni Association project, you can write or call at the e-mail address or phone number below.

One exciting project:

The Cornell University Library, with the cooperation of The Sun and the Alumni Association, is digitizing every article published in The Cornell Sun since 1880. When the project is completed, The Sun will be fully searchable online. You'll even be able to key in your own name and pull up all your bylined articles.

The Cornell Daily Sun has always been more than just "Ithaca's Only Morning Newspaper." Since our 19th Century founding, The Sun has been among the nation's top college newspapers. Our objective, beginning with the purchase of the Sun Building, is to help the undergraduates make The Cornell Daily Sun the absolute best.

BerryPatchedly yours,
Stan Chess '69
schess@lawtv.com; 212-861-8048

News Broke Fast for 120th Editorial Board

By BETH E. HERSKOVITS '03

One week after the 120th editorial board took office, President Hunter R. Rawlings III announced his retirement, and we had our first breaking story.

Rawlings, 58, announced last March that he would return to teaching at the end of his eighth year as president.

Our first major story came full circle as we neared the competition for next year's editors. The board of trustees revealed on December 14 that Jeffrey S. Lehman '77 would succeed Rawlings as Cornell's 11th president. He will be the first alumnus to hold this title.

The Sun welcomed the new president with a four-page extra edition (including a short biography of Lehman, student and faculty reactions, and a look back on Rawlings' tenure) as well as on our Web site – www.cornelldaily-sun.com. (See *Sun* editorial on



The Cornell Daily Sun's 120th editorial board poses at the start of its term. Pictured, left to right: Shalini Saxena '05, Lindsay Jacobson '04, Evelyn Rodriguez '04, Gideon Simpson '03, Rachel Einschlag '04, Carlos Perkins '04, Amanda Angel '03, Kelly Samuels '04, Jason Lee '03, Beth Herskovits '03, Alex Ip '04, Maggie Frank '03, Ben Kupstas '04, Nate Brown '04, and Jennifer Roberts '03. Not pictured: Marc Zawel '04 and Laura Rowntree '04.

Lehman, below.)

Our Web site, in fact, has been an invaluable tool in bringing readers timely information when *The Sun* would otherwise not be

published. Summer stories we broke on the Web included the university's proposal to dissolve the College of Architecture, Art and Planning as well as Provost

Biddy Martin's unexpected (and controversial) firing of Philip E. Lewis, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

(continued on page eight)

A Sun Welcome for Jeffrey S. Lehman

Editor's note: The Sun had ended publication for 2002 when Cornell named Jeffrey S. Lehman '77 as its new president. In the best spirit of journalism, Sun staffers turned their attention from finals and produced a four-page extra edition that was distributed free on campus. It included the following editorial:

A Welcome to Lehman

Jeffrey S. Lehman '77, Cornell's eleventh president, had a number of strikes against him when he was one of 500 names presented to members of the presidential search committee.

For one, he was a dean – not a president, provost, or other upper-level administrator – and the search committee had agreed to consider only the most exceptional deans. Then there's his stature: he stands less than six feet tall. And, as the inevitable question during a press conference pointed out, he is a white male.

Yet the presidential search committee nevertheless managed

to attract someone who has already created a buzz on campus and will ultimately fill Cornell's demand for a strong fundraiser, an academic who will inspire research in both the sciences and the humanities, and a notable proponent of diversity.

Despite an impressive resume of scholarly work and positions, Lehman is famed at present for leading the University of Michigan law school as it argues in front of the Supreme Court to uphold its policy of racial preferences in admissions.

Lehman is truly passionate about this cause, it is evident, by a career of studying diversity in higher education, a goal that was one of the major components of a September statement released by the presidential search committee.

Therefore, while the search committee did not select a woman or minority president – as many people had speculated – a leader may still be a champion of diversity without being a member of an underrepresented group.

The search committee, as many students, administrators, faculty, and staff members are realizing, instead discovered Lehman's greater strengths: his strong leadership in academia, his Cornell connections, and his charisma.

In September, *The Sun* predicted that only a Cornellian could ever begin to grasp the complexity of this university as it has sprawled from Ithaca to Doha. Lehman, who received a bachelor's degree in mathematics here, and whose father ('49) and son ('06) did and will do the same, has his roots on the Hill.

Furthermore, he has played an active role in higher education as dean of the Michigan law school – most notably, of course, through his fight to uphold the school's affirmative action policies. He is also a former professor of law and public policy.

When he talks about Cornell's future, Lehman has a global vision for the university – an institution that not only leads in the hard and life sciences, but also distributes



Jeffrey S. Lehman

this information around the world.

Finally, Lehman's connections to the university will prepare him to make significant fundraising contributions. He has already charmed reporters and trustees with memories of friendships at Cornell, the table tennis club and accounts of a favorite professor who still teaches in the history department.

The Sun would like to welcome Lehman back to Ithaca, extend its heartiest congratulations, and wish him the best of luck.

Reunion Edition of Sun Recalls News Circa 1952

By LARRY ARNOLD '88

Cornell alumni attending their 50th reunion last summer were greeted by some memory-inducing headlines:

"Ike Stirs Hopes He Plans to Run"

"Becker to Install Deane W. Malott Sixth Cornell University President"

"Marciano KO Upsets Louis Crown Hope"

Those were among the stories plucked from history and reprinted in a special four-page reunion edition of *The Cornell Daily Sun*. The publishers, Pat Lovejoy Stoddard '52 and Mike Scott '52, distributed about 700 copies during reunion weekend.

Stoddard and Scott first compiled a class of '52 keepsake edition in 1972 for distribution at their 20th reunion. Scott said he spent a few days before that reunion perusing bound volumes of *The Sun* for the 1951-1952 academic year. Every word of text came from stories printed in *The Sun*, except for an editorial written

by Stoddard and Scott.

Thirty years later, Stoddard and Scott collaborated again. They republished the four-page edition, updating it with a new editorial titled, "Another Season, Another Reason, for Makin' Whoopee" (excerpts below).

The mini-newspaper included unbylined stories written by *Sun* staffers in 1951-52, plus others taken from Associated Press.

The lead story, previewing Malott taking over as Cornell president, said he asked for an unadorned installation ceremony: "Simplicity of the whole ceremony will be emphasized by the absence of the traditional caps and gowns and academic procession, characteristic of every previous Cornell installation."

An October 3 AP sports story reported on the Bobby Thomson home run that lifted the New York Giants to the National League pennant over the Brooklyn Dodgers: "The tremendous blow, one of the most valuable ever struck, came with one down in the final chapter to electrify a crowd of 34,320, which had been resigned to a Dodger victory only minutes before."

A staff-written story previewed "'52 Hullabaloo," a Spring Weekend festival featuring a circus theme, a dance, a float parade, and boat races.

And in a story that could easily appear today, *The Sun* reported, "Although the roads in Ithaca and vicinity were ice-covered and very slippery, no major accidents were reported yesterday by local authorities."

The edition included a comic strip of Pogo, the cartoon possum who was the subject of a presidential draft in 1952. Among his tongue-in-cheek supporters was *The Sun*. In an article headlined "Ruling Rocks Pogo Support," the paper reported that Pogo had won a mock campus primary with 70 votes – his closest competitor, government Prof. Clinton L. Rossiter, got 30 – before campus officials ruled the Pogo ballots invalid.

Scott and Stoddard both joined *The Sun* their freshman year, 1948, and completed the compet program.

Stoddard says she wrote mostly features, "smoked a lot of cigarettes, got permission to stay out past the lock-down hour for

girls [sic], and learned to love the clackety noise of the linotype machine and the acrid smells of the composing room at *The Ithaca Journal*."

Her first post-college job was as an editorial researcher at *Time-Life*; later she worked as a teacher and school administrator, then as an assistant to the CEO of a large paper company. She lives in New Canaan, Connecticut.

Scott served as associate editor of *The Sun* in his senior year. He is now the director of governmental and legal affairs for the American Society of Anesthesiologists, a position he took in 1993 after taking early retirement from the law firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey. He lives in Washington.

"Everyone at both reunions had a great time with the issue, because it brings back so many memories," Scott said. "I mean, how many Cornellians can claim that in their senior year, the new president was caught plagiarizing (inadvertently, he said) by *The New Yorker*, the football team beat Michigan, and 25 students were suspended for broadcasting a fake war scare a la Orson Welles?"

Excerpts from the editorial written by Pat Lovejoy Stoddard '52 and Mike Scott '52 for last summer's reunion edition of *The Cornell Daily Sun*:

We don't know if you remember, but it was a beautiful warm day in June when we graduated 50 years ago. Children of the Depression and World War II, we trooped in docile procession to Barton Hall for the benediction, and then on to our various campuses for the piece of paper that made it official.

It was a beautiful warm day, but around us uncertainty roiled. Mothers, sisters and girlfriends pinned officer's bars on the uniforms of ROTC graduates commissioned for war, and Sage Chapel ran non-stop for couples seeking the security of early vows. Those members of our class not entering the military or going on to grad school faced an uneven job market.

Our expectations were mixed: We assumed we would find decent jobs somewhere and assumed also that if we married, a single income would support a family.

Anyhow it was a beautiful, warm day, just as it is today for us lucky ones 50 years later: we're alive, we're able to get around well enough to return once more to this place far above the humming bustling town, and we care enough about that beautiful day to want to be here among the people, sights and sounds we have loved so well for so long.

We've written our wills, trust agreements, and powers of attorney. We've remembered Cornell, one way or another, or we wouldn't be here to celebrate her.

We've looked down the barrel of a gun and made what preparations we can for our Final Days. We expect our suits and hemlines and our cars to "last." Maybe even our pets.

We've done all those practical, responsible, and necessary things to put our affairs in order. We think there IS something impor-

tant to be said, and done, at this point – at this season of our lives, if you will. This is the time for us to do all the impractical, irresponsible and unnecessary things that we have never allowed ourselves to do....

Get a personal trainer. Get a Harley-Davidson. Get a horse. Learn to play the banjo. Do the Electric Slide, or the Macarena, or both. If you've wished upon a star, now is the time for that wish to come true. Just DO it, in your Nikes or not. So you stumble, so what? Who's keeping score?

Dammit, don't let's just fade away, like old soldiers. We didn't go to Yale, Harvard or Princeton – we went to E.B. White's "and perhaps" Cornell, where they've always been a little strange and incorrect anyway. In short, let's blaze into our final decades with all the energy and zeal and humor that our fantasies confirm we possess.

Schaap's Successor as Sports Editor Made History

Editor's Note: Dick Schaap's successful bid for editor-in-chief for the 1954-'55 school year opened up the position of sports editor – and therein lies a separate proud chapter in Sun history.

Succeeding Schaap was Anne Morrissy '55 (now Anne Morrissy Merick), who broke barriers across the Ivy League as its first female sports editor.

That was just the first chapter in a distinguished career in journalism for Merick.

She collaborated with eight other women to produce last year's book, War Torn, their personal accounts of reporting from Vietnam during a time

when female war reporters were a rarity.

Vietnam "drew the most famous names of the journalistic community, and I was part of this illustrious group," writes Merick, who went there in 1967 as a producer for ABC News. "While there weren't a lot of women correspondents in-country, we were treated as equals by the establishment and most of our peers. We asked no special favors and worked just as hard and under the same circumstances as our male colleagues."

Morrissy, who now lives in Naples, Florida, recalls her historic tenure at The Sun.



Anne Morrissy Merick '55

BY ANNE MORRISSY MERICK '55

In the early days of the Ivy League, only two of the institutions, Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania, accepted women students. The other six colleges were steadfast bastions of masculinity. It wasn't until the '60s that the rest of the Ivies came to their senses and began enrolling women.

In fact, when I attended Cornell in the mid-'50s the ratio of men to women was, from my point of view, a delightful seven to one. So it was a major news story in *The New York Times* when I was elected sports editor of the well-regarded *Cornell Daily Sun* in 1954.

I had gone out for the *Sun* staff my sophomore year at the suggestion of Bill Waters, who later made a name for himself in the financial world working for Merrill Lynch and being a regular on TV's *Wall Street Week*. I quickly discovered that covering women's issues wasn't my cup of tea, so I tried out for the sports staff.

I had gotten involved with sports when I went to my first baseball game in fifth grade and fell in love with the Chicago Cubs. I was so enchanted with the game that I published my own newspaper in suburban Chicago devoted to the coverage of baseball. It never made a profit but it was my first attempt at journalism.

Most of the guys on *The Sun's* sports page wanted to cover the glamour sports such as football, basketball, track, and wrestling, where their bylines counted with the student readership. Being a woman with little clout, I was rel-

egated to lesser intercollegiate varsity sports such as polo and fencing. In the days before Title IX, little attention was paid to women's athletics.

That was fine with me. Cornell had outstanding teams in swimming, lacrosse, soccer, baseball, and crew. I staked my claim to crew (spring and fall) and swimming (winter). Ice hockey was still years in the future for the Ithaca campus.

I loved working on *The Sun*. It took over my campus life – I'm afraid to the detriment of my academic life. Like all coeds in those years, I lived in an on-campus dormitory and later in a sorority house. Women were subject to curfews, but as a *Sun* staffer I was exempt. I came and went as my newspaper duties dictated. Life was great.

At the end of my junior year most of the serious staffers were thinking about trying out for an editor's position. *The Sun* had a great reputation. It had been edited by E.B. White and was considered a great training ground for fledgling newsmen. Many of its graduates went on to illustrious careers in the profession. In my class of 1955 alone there were ten classmates who spent their lives in journalism or related fields.

Since I was working on the sports page, it seemed reasonable to try out for the position of sports editor. I figured it would be good experience, and since I didn't stand one chance in a million to win, I had nothing to lose.

The heir apparent to the position was classmate Dick Schaap. He had been with the paper since freshman year and was by far the best writer we had. If he wasn't

"This sports writing doll breached the last bastion of masculinity left standing this side of the shower room."

—Sports columnist Red Smith

elected editor-in-chief he was a sure bet for the sports page. Obviously I was one of his most vocal supporters in his bid for the top job.

Dick won the editorship and I was elected sports editor, the first woman to hold the position in Ivy League history. Venerable sports columnist Red Smith chronicled the event in his syndicated column: "This sports writing doll breached the last bastion of masculinity left standing this side of the shower room." Today I would have bristled at the use of the word "doll," but then I was just delighted to see my name in print.

I no longer was relegated to polo and fencing. As sports editor it was my job to cover the headline events of football and basketball. I knew a lot about basketball because I played it, but I was woefully ignorant about the strategies of the gridiron. So when football practice began in the fall, I was there on the sidelines diagramming plays and asking thousands of questions.

The coaching staff was great. Their understanding and patience got me through those first games until I felt I could do a creditable job covering a game.

Lefty James, Cornell's varsity football coach from 1947 to 1960, and Athletic Director Bob Kane, who later served as president of the United States Olympic Commission, were two of my greatest supporters. Another was

Sports Information Director Ben Mintz, who realized he could get a lot of mileage for Cornell by touting my gender.

When Yale invited me to be the first woman to cover a football game from their sacrosanct Yale Bowl, Ben and the Elis' publicity Charlie Loftus got my name and picture in just about every newspaper across the nation.

All the publicity helped my career. After I graduated I got a job as sports editor of the Paris Edition of *The New York Herald Tribune*, more familiarly known as the *Paris Herald*. Eventually my career path led to television and jobs with NBC and ABC, where I renewed my friendship with Dick Schaap.

He was such a special person and despite his fame and fortune he always supported his classmates and Cornell. Several years ago when I was chairman of our 45th class reunion, I asked Dick if he would be the keynote speaker at our class dinner. He graciously accepted.

Sitting next to him at dinner before his address, I noticed how nervous he had become. I asked him, "How can you be nervous? You've done this a million times – often in front of the most famous people in the world."

"Yes, but these people are my classmates," he answered.

We had some illustrious classmates, but I don't know any who will be missed more than Dick.

Dick Schaap: Sun Success Story, Sun Friend

(continued from page one)

2001, Washington Post columnist Tony Kornheiser wrote:

The last time I saw Dick was in late August at his beloved alma mater, Cornell University. Dick is in the sports Hall of Fame there – he'd tell you it was more for his sports writing at The Cornell Daily Sun than his skill as Cornell's lacrosse goalie. Dick loved Ithaca, New York, so much that a couple of years ago he bought a house up there, and

converted its old horse barn into an office. I was there for my daughter's freshman orientation. (Yes, I leaned on Dick to write her a recommendation.) Dick had me come with him as he addressed the football team. As usual, Dick was brief and funny. He told them they didn't have to win all their games – that was for Ohio State. "Four or five would be nice."

One of Dick Schaap's great legacies is the continuing success of son Jeremy. Like his dad, Jere-

my devoted much of his time at Cornell to *The Sun*. He was a *Sun* sportswriter for two years, then sports editor, then senior editor. Now he is a familiar presence on ESPN, offering his expertise and eloquence at major sports events.

Among the many tributes Jeremy composed after his dad's death was a speech he delivered in June to the Associated Press Sports Editors, which had named Dick Schaap the winner of its 2002 Red Smith Award. With Jeremy's permission, that speech is printed below.

Editor's Note: Donations to the Cornell Daily Sun Alumni Association in honor of Dick Schaap will be used to support the Sun sports department, including construction of the sports office at The Sun's new home, plus other Sun activities. Checks should be made payable to the Cornell Daily Sun Alumni Association, with "Dick Schaap Memorial" written in the memo line. For details on giving, see letter from Stan Chess '69, page 3.

Jeremy Schaap's Speech to the Associated Press Sports Editors, June 2002

I know my father would be deeply honored to receive the Red Smith Award. Red was a close friend, a colleague, and a hero to my father – and not just because Red was born in Green Bay, my father's adopted hometown.

My father and Red worked together at *The New York Herald Tribune*, where Smith had been hired in the 1940s by Stanley Woodward, another of my father's heroes. My father became the city editor of the *Herald Tribune* in 1963, at the age of 29. In 1964, he stepped down as city editor to write a city-side column; he shared space on the op-ed page with Jimmy Breslin and Tom Wolfe, and together they were among the pioneers of the new journalism.

By 1965, Breslin, Wolfe, Red Smith, and my father had managed to kill the *Herald Tribune* – a tribute to the power of talent – but the paper was reborn shortly thereafter as the *World Journal Tribune*, which died in its infancy in 1966.

My father was never again a newspaperman. In fact, his entire post-college career in newspapers lasted only three years – those three years at the *Herald Tribune* – but those were, he often told me, the three most rewarding years of his professional life. He loved the newsroom – its intelligence and

pace – and he never quite washed the newsprint from his hands.

After the *Trib* folded, he dedicated himself to books and then to television, but he always wished that his paper had lived. It was there, at the *Herald Tribune*, that he developed his style, where the competition with the paper's other leading lights made him the journalist he was. He said to me that if the *Trib* hadn't folded, he would have happily spent his entire career in its newsroom – although without jobs at NBC and ABC it would have been more difficult to send six children to college.

Over the years, he would occasionally take special assignments for major newspapers, covering the Montreal Olympics for the *Washington Star*, for instance. And he was, for two decades, the sports editor of *Parade Magazine*, for whom, over the years, he wrote some of his best stories. So he never quite left the world of newspapers – but it wasn't the same.

The *Tribune* was his last paper, but it wasn't his first. He worked for his hometown paper in Freeport, Long Island, when he was 12. And when he was 15, he went to work for the *Nassau Review-Star*. He was the paper's sole schools correspondent and his editor was a 19-year-old named Jimmy Breslin. A 15-year-old

writer and a 19-year-old editor – as my father liked to say, you can imagine what a great paper it was.

At Cornell, my father majored in *The Cornell Daily Sun*. He was editor in chief, as E.B. White had been 30 years earlier. Then he earned a Grantland Rice scholarship to Columbia's journalism school. From there he went to work at *Newsweek* – and then finally landed at the *Herald Tribune*.

In *The Paper*, his award-winning history of the *Herald Tribune*, Richard Kluge wrote that Dick Schaap "could write rings around most of the reporters he edited." I think he wrote rings around just about everyone. And his pioneering foray into television led the way for better or worse for the sportswriter-slash-television commentator. On that subject, I know he had mixed feelings. I know he regretted inflicting *Lupica* on America.

When my father died, I was overwhelmed by the remarkable tributes that poured in from across the country. There were dozens of obituaries and columns written by

your colleagues, honoring my father. He would have loved them. He would have appreciated the television tributes, as well, but he would have savored the words in print. He loved the exposure and the audience television afforded him, but his soul never left the newsroom.

After my father died, a reporter I've known a long time told me a story about my father I had never heard.

This reporter happened to be covering the Millrose Games for the Associated Press about 20 years ago when his wife suddenly went into labor. My father was sitting in the press box, out of newspapers for 10 years, merely observing the meet. He told the young reporter, whom he had previously never met, not to worry, that he would file his story for him, to rush home.

He rushed home and that night his wife gave birth to their first child. Around the country the next day, the Millrose Games' byline was his – but the story was Dick Schaap's.



Jeremy Schaap '91



Dick Schaap with Bill Clinton on the green.

A Passionate Life, Cut Short on 9/11

BY LARRY ARNOLD '88

When Allison Vadhan listened to recordings of one man's cell phone call to his wife from United Flight 93, the hijacked plane that ultimately crashed in a Pennsylvania field after its passengers fought back, one of his phrases stuck with her: "What do I do, pick up my butter knife?"

She has no way of knowing for sure, but she suspects the man was repeating the words of her passionately blunt mother, Kristin Gould White '57, who also was on the doomed plane. "This is exactly the kind of fearless humor my mother had," Vadhan says. "Perhaps she put the thought in his head. Who can say?"

White, one of the more than 3,000 victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, wrote for *The Sun* while attending Cornell in the 1950s. It was one stop during a colorful life of achievement and adventure.

An obituary of White published October 28, 2001, in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* began, "Sins are sins, Kristin Gould

White believed, but ignorance and boredom were two of the most egregious."

During her time at *The Sun*, White "was primarily a reviewer, of plays usually, or concerts," recalled Kirkpatrick Sale '58, who served as *The Sun's* editor-in-chief. "Occasionally she wrote funny pieces on the editorial page. She also wrote for the *Widow*, which was the humor magazine."

White retained an interest in *The Sun* over the years. She contacted Sun Alumni Association President Stan Chess '69 in 2000 to alert him to the passing of Sale's wife, Faith Apfelbaum Sale '58. White and the alumni association split the cost of a death notice in *The New York Times*.

White had also expressed interest in getting involved with the alumni association, Chess said.

White carried to Cornell her family's hopes that she would become a doctor. She pursued premed as a minor but was also drawn to "her other great interests – literature, acting and writing," wrote Jere Longman in *Among the Heroes*, his book on Flight 93.



Kristin Gould White (nee Olga Kristin Osterholm)
FROM THE 1957
CORNELLIAN.

White obtained her bachelor's degree in English.

While at Cornell, White joined an early campus protest against housing rules for female students, one of which strictly regulated visits by male students to the rooms of women. She met her first husband, Mark White. And she collaborated with Sale on one of his campus productions – an elaborate hoax in the spring of 1957 to poke fun at the vanity of fellow students.

"We organized a weekend filming event and advertised in *The Sun* that it was being organized by the famous Hollywood filmmaker Roger B. Hoakes," Sale recalled.

"We got a camera and an open truck, and we got an older grad student to ride around the campus on Saturday and pretend to shoot this camera at everybody. We just watched to see how everybody flocked to it. Everybody believed it. And we exposed our reasons to do it in *The Sun* with a double truck of pictures of how people had responded, hoping thereby to humiliate them."

White studied theater in graduate school after Cornell, then became a medical journalist. She wrote a 1984 book, *Diet and Cancer*, and also worked for publications including *Medical World News* and the *Journal of Women's Health*.

She also wrote a book on

Jacqueline Kennedy under the pseudonym Hedda Lyons Watney.

But White's work hardly defined her. She was a world traveler, fluent in several languages, and used her Upper West Side brownstone in New York as a base for regular visits to art museums and musical performances.

Fearless, she talked a would-be mugger out of victimizing her and persuaded an obscene caller to open up about what he really needed to talk about.

"Kristin seemed to her friends to know something about everything, the advent of the Gregorian calendar, existentialism, the toilet training of standard poodles," Longman wrote in "Among the Heroes."

The book includes one of White's poems, titled "An Invitation to Reincarnation." It begins,

*"I'd love to return as a cello
And if you come back as a Bow,
The music we'd make would
make continents quake
And Dolphins would whistle
'Bravo!'"*

White turned 65 two weeks before her death. She was flying to California to visit some of her many friends.

Vadhan, White's only child, has three children. At White's request, they called her "Kristin," rather than "Grandma."

Vadhan is serving as the chairman of communications for the Families of Flight 93, an organization working with the National Park Service on a permanent memorial at the crash site near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

News Broke Fast for 120th Editorial Board

(continued from page four)

Yet perhaps the best demonstration of what we could accomplish through the Web was our coverage of the vote for graduate student unionization.

Over the course of two days, *Sun* staffers conducted exit polls outside voting stations. We predicted the failure of the unionization movement within two percent of the actual results. The results were posted on our Web site hours before the official tallies were finalized, and *The Sun* was the only publication to have the story of unionization's resounding loss.

But judging from the level of national and local media attention, sex was our biggest story of the fall.

When word leaked that the campus health center was considering the sale of vibrators (as part of a greater women's health initiative), major news organizations, such as OpinionJournal.com and the Drudge Report, linked to our story. The vibrator story received 50,000 unique visits; our popular stories typically see about 2,000 visits.

We expected that the story would generate attention. We had

no idea that readers from all over the world would turn to (and nearly overload) our Web site.

For the second year, *The Sun* is being distributed free to freshmen in North Campus dorms. Our goal is to create regular *Sun* readers among first-year students, who will then subscribe as upperclassmen. Our Web site is also an increasingly popular means to access *The Sun* on and off campus.

Beth E. Herskovits '03 is editor-in-chief for the 120th editorial board.

Contributions are welcome for the George Nobbe and Kristin White Memorial Fund at St. Luke's School in New Canaan, Connecticut. Checks should be made out to St. Luke's School, with the name of the fund in the memo line.

The address is:

St. Luke's School
377 North Wilton Rd.
New Canaan, CT 06840
ATTN: Development Office

When 'Flash' Hillegas Baited a Cornell-Baiter

A July obituary in *The Ithaca Journal* brought word of the death of Fred Hillegas, who served as *Sun* editor-in-chief in 1937-'38. He was 85.

Hillegas grew up in Ithaca and began his journalism career early, as Boy Scout columnist for *The Ithaca Journal-News*. He was sports editor of the Ithaca High School student newspaper before moving on to Cornell, and *The Sun*.

After college, he worked at the *Syracuse Post-Standard* before joining WSYR radio as the sole member of its news department. When the station added a television affiliate, he became news director and chief anchor. He left Syracuse in 1972, living in Arizona and then in Oregon.

His many honors included being named "Best New York State Newsman" by United Press in 1960. For many years he was a class of '38 correspondent for Cornell's alumni magazine.

As a *Sun* compet, Hillegas was nicknamed "Flash" by the composing room foreman at *The*

Ithaca Journal-News, which printed *The Sun*.

For *A Century at Cornell* (copyright 1980), the book on *The Sun* by Daniel Margulis '73 and John Schroeder '74, Hillegas contributed three remembrances, including one about baiting a Cornell-baiter. An excerpt:

"One of my *Sun* career's highlights was what's been known ever since as 'the McNaboe rallies.'

"First, in Albany, State Sen. John McNaboe, for whatever his own reasons of sincerity or political hype, announced he would vote for no further state appropriations for Cornell because he had proof the Ithaca campus was rampant with marijuana.

"Today it may sound preposterous, but when the AP dispatch from Albany about the senator arrived at the *Sun* office, other editors and I had to scurry to our Webster's to ascertain details of what we vaguely guessed to be some kind of strange drug, like opium or peyote.

"The best part of what Noah's tome told us (at least, best for our

journalistic purposes) was that some people believed marijuana an aphrodisiac (and I imagine some of us had to surreptitiously look up that word, too).

"In any event, the next morning's *Sun* banner headline announced a 'marijuana merry-go-round' on the Straight steps that evening. A hurried call to Ithaca police had produced the chief's report there'd been only one marijuana arrest in Ithaca's recorded history, a charge against a resident non-Cornell 'sheik' (also read 'smoothie' or 'hipster') who'd obtained said substance from a visiting dance-orchestra musician years before.

"So that evening in front of the Straight, a grubby-looking bedderbied Yours Truly was smoking a (tobacco-containing) banquet-length cigarette held in a sinister-looking Turkish-looking water-pipe, while a public address system blared forth some music and then the sarcastic description of what should happen to Sen. McNaboe — all this in front of a student throng filling

the Straight's frontal exterior.

"A few days later in the Albany session, Mr. McNaboe again swore he'd approve no more Cornell aid, this time because the campus was 'a hotbed of Communism.'

"Once again, a *Sun* front-page bannered notice of a 'rally,' and as fickle fate would have it there was, indeed, a Young Communist League chapter meeting in the Straight that night.

"*The Sun* men's front-door 'Big Red red-red rally' was addressed in the light of flickering (red, natch!) railroad flares by 'Comrade Flashovitz' amid the cheers of onlookers and the plaintive but unsuccessful appeals of YCL members please to be allowed into their scheduled meeting room already overflowing with curious bystanders craning to see a real, live Communist, even if an adolescent one.

"News photos of the spoof-rallies were published nationwide in newspapers always thirsting for proof of how deleterious youth was/is."



Sun editor-in-chief Jeffrey R. Coplon '73 and managing editor Daniel Margulis '73 stand bemused next to a dummy "night editor," complete with gas mask, set up in the top-floor space that served as The Sun's newsroom in the Colonial Building at 109 East State Street. The large photos on the wall in the background are still preserved in the current Sun office at 119 South Cayuga Street.



Jonathan M. Landsman '81 holds a copy of the September 16, 1980 Centennial Edition of The Sun as it rolls off the presses at The Ithaca Journal. In the background stand Marilyn E. Kornfeld '81 and Jonathan Rosenblum '83.

Some Headlines and 'Ledes' From The Sun's 2002 April Fool's Day Edition

RAWLINGS STUNS CAMPUS, BECOMES ORIOLE PITCHER

It looks like President Hunter Rawlings's unexpected resignation from the top position at the university wasn't for the purpose of getting into teaching full-time after all. Inspired by the new movie *The Rookie*, Rawlings announced Saturday that he would give his pro baseball career another shot.

CORNELL REVIEW RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

In a move that has been anticipated since its first publication in 1984, *The Cornell Review* has recently been short-listed for sev-

eral national awards for excellence in college journalism. Nods came last week from the NAACP, the Human Rights Campaign, and the Anti-Defamation League, among other organizations.

RESNET TO INCREASE

ResNet officials announced a miscalculation of next year's fees Saturday. Students will actually pay \$440.92 a month to connect to the Internet from their dorm rooms.

LEE, WATTENBERG ENTER PRO REALM

Junior co-captain Clint Wattenberg and freshman Travis Lee

of the wrestling team dropped a surprise announcement on the Cornell athletic community this weekend, proclaiming that they would join the World Wrestling Federation as a tag team this summer.

PRINCETON FORFEITS REST OF LAX SEASON

After rolling off 37 consecutive wins in the Ivy League, Princeton head lacrosse coach Bill Tierney has suspended his team's season indefinitely. The decision comes one day after the Tigers lost their first Ivy League game in seven years on their own Class of '52 Field.

Please Write!



The Cornell Alumni Sun needs your columns, stories, and other submissions. What are your favorite memories of *The Sun*? Did your experience at *The Sun* help guide you to your current vocation, or avocation? Please send the submissions to *The Cornell Alumni Sun*, P.O. Box 1503, New York, NY 10021, or e-mail them to editor@cornellsun.org.

The Bidding Is On – And Online – for Sun Stuff

BY LARRY ARNOLD '88

In one little corner of the massive yard sale known as eBay, a minor bidding war erupted during the final days of November.

The prize: four editions of *The Cornell Daily Sun* – one from 1948, one from 1949, and two from 1950. One was a joke edition topped by a blaring headline: “8 Coeds Plunge Off Triphammer: Virtue Week Deemed Cause.”

In her listing for the online auction, the seller, Denise Bronson of California, wrote that the newspapers “belonged to a student who attended Cornell between 1948 and 1952.”

Even she was surprised by the amount of the winning bid: \$135.37.

“With eBay auctions, you just never know,” she said in an interview via e-mail, “and I kind of have a knack for picking some winners. But I really didn’t foresee that outcome.”

Cornell Daily Sun memorabilia – old editions, mostly, but more unusual items on occasion – pop up with some regularity on eBay, the online auction house.

Last January, three editions of *The Sun* from 1915, 1916, and 1917 went for \$11.50. In December, a joke 1950 *Sun* – “Cornell Secedes! Gains Autonomy!” – generated one bid and sold for \$9.95. The same month, a 1981 graduation edition of *The Sun* drew zero bids, even for the starting price of \$1.99.

Bronson is a frequent seller. “My living room sometimes looks like a warehouse,” she wrote, “but my husband doesn’t complain too much because the money keeps coming in.”

Her supply of Cornell items came from a friend who bought them at an auction in boxes, sight unseen. She said the items belonged to a Cornell student named Beatrice DeGara.

In the case of the four editions that sold for more than \$135, the

buyer went by the name Time-Man17. Responding to an e-mail forwarded through eBay, he identified himself as Arthur Kaminsky ’68, the prominent sports and media agent in New York.

“While not a *Sun* staffer, I did write a few sports articles and columns for the *The Sun*,” Kaminsky wrote in his e-mail reply. “While at Yale for law school, I covered the Eli hockey team for a year. I’ve continued my efforts as a free-lance sportswriter in the intervening decades including a regular college hockey column for *The New York Times* (1973-1977) and, recently, a series of nostalgic sports pieces for the *Cornell Alumni Magazine*.”

Kaminsky is an inveterate collector of all things Cornell, plus college programs, rare books, and, most notably, *Time* magazines with autographed covers. (He boasts the largest collection in the world, more than 3,200.)

Stan Chess ’69, president of

The Sun’s alumni association, is a regular bidder on *Sun* memorabilia auctioned online. His trophy purchase so far: a gold pin featuring a replica *Sun* front page, which was evidently given to some of the editors in the class of 1928.

At the time he noticed the item, the high bid was \$25. He ultimately won it for \$75.

“When I’m buying the stuff, I’m essentially buying it for *The Cornell Daily Sun*,” Chess said. “I’m going to keep it for my lifetime, but I’m going to bequeath it to *The Sun*.”

Chess has also purchased some *Sun* bound volumes, plus old editions of *Suns*, *Cornell Eras*, and *Cornell Widows*.

He urged other *Sun* alumni who may bid on *Sun* items to note whether they are bidding against him – his e-mail is lawyer@lawtv.com – and, if so, to notify him if they have a personal interest in the item or are likewise trying to acquire it for *The Sun*.

For Sale: Sun Shirts

In a burst of entrepreneurial wisdom, the 120th *Sun* editorial board is drawing extra income – and getting extra publicity – by selling T-shirts and mugs.

There are currently two T-shirt designs available.

The first features the phrase, “Older Than *The Wall Street Journal*, Funnier Than *The New York Times: The Cornell Daily Sun*.”

The second design, in hot demand among students, features a popular comic character – Mr. Gnu – reading *The Sun* over his morning cup of coffee.

Mr. Gnu, Travis Dandro’s racy comic strip, appears in just two college newspapers nationwide (the other is UC Berkeley’s *Daily Californian*) and already has a sort of cult following in Ithaca. Dandro designed the Mr. Gnu shirts exclusively for *The Sun*.

Both shirts are white cotton with black lettering and can be purchased by calling *The Sun*’s office at 607/273-3606. Black mugs with a white mast are also available.

Visa and Mastercard are accepted. A shipping and handling fee may apply.

THE CORNELL DAILY SUN T-SHIRT

\$10*

M, L, XL

—white only

**Call 607-273-3606
to order**

**VISA/MasterCard
accepted**

***A \$5 S&H fee may apply**



The Sun's newsroom on the top floor of the Colonial Building at 109 East State Street bustles with activity on November 14, 1975. This space, which had previously served as a dance hall, featured benches along both sides and a balcony from which this photo was taken.

CREDIT: ROBERT S. SIMON '76



The Cornell Daily Sun Alumni Association
P.O. Box 876
Ithaca, NY 14851-0876

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ITHACA, NY
PERMIT #21