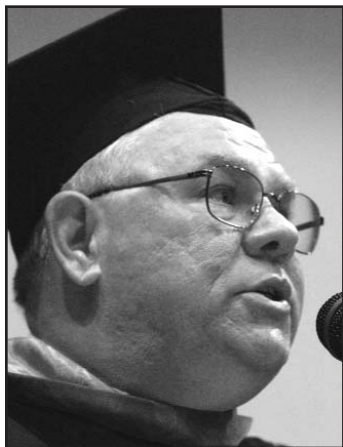


Baccalaureate Service Provides Time for Quiet Reflection



Keynote speaker Daniel Thompson encourages graduates to become "conscious, caring contributors to society."

The Baccalaureate Service on Sunday morning, May 23, was a quiet and peaceful time for Eastern's graduating seniors and their families to meditate prior to the afternoon's commencement exercises.

"Let us share a small moment of silent reflection," Father Larry LaPointe told the gathering. "Let us be grateful for these men and women on their special day, and for all the blessings we have received."

At the baccalaureate service Calvin Fish of the Jubilee Class of '54 urged

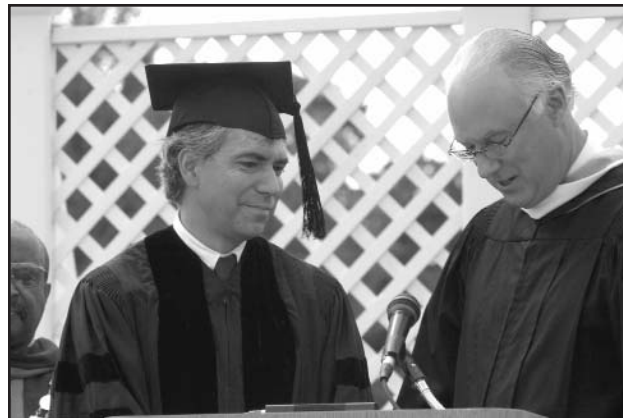
members of the Class of '04 to "stay in touch" with one another, adding that he and his classmates still maintain contact after a half century. Fish also chronicled the evolution of Eastern since his days as a freshman: from Willimantic State Teachers College to Willimantic State College, to Eastern Connecticut State College, to its current identity as Eastern Connecticut State University. "In 1950, we had only Shafer, Burr, and Beckert. Of course, we anticipated change, but I for one am amazed at all the progress."

Baccalaureate keynote speaker, Professor of Education Daniel Thompson, encouraged graduates to become "conscious, caring contributors to society. Your arrival here four years ago was a gift; you accepted an obligation, a duty to use it wisely and well. Now the question is, have you met your obligation? You really need a standard to judge your contributions. I suggest that service to others be that standard. And do recognize that simple acts of kindness may be as profound as more notable acts recorded in history.

Leave today knowing that Eastern has prepared you to have an open mind and a giving heart."

"We Have a Constitutional Duty"

Most Commencement speakers promise graduating classes bright futures and illustrious careers. Not so for John R. MacArthur, president and publisher of *Harper's Magazine*, an award-winning journalist and author, and Eastern's Commencement speaker for 2004. MacArthur challenged Eastern's graduating class: "As American citizens, we're supposed to do better than go along to get along. We have a constitutional duty to participate in our own governance. In theory and in practice, we have the right to say no when we



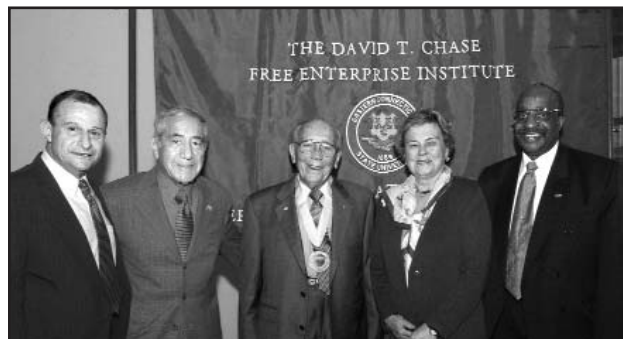
John R. MacArthur receives the Doctorate of Humanities during Commencement exercises.

are in a minority of one — whether on a jury, in a polling booth, as a member of Congress, or simply doing a regular job in a regular place of business."

MacArthur, using the war in Iraq as context, warned graduates that one day they would have to answer the question, "Would I rather be a famous team player or a more obscure individual with my conscience and intellect intact?" He suggested that the liberal arts education the graduates had received at Eastern will help them make the right choice.

Harry Gray Receives Chase Medallion

Harry Jack Gray, chairman and chief executive of Harry Gray Associates, was presented with the President's Chase Medallion on Wednesday, May 26, during an event held by Eastern's David T. Chase Free Enterprise Institute. The Chase Medallion is presented periodically to individuals who have attained preeminence in an area of life beyond the university campus.



Kenneth Parzych, David T. Chase, Harry Gray, Mrs. Gray, and Dr. Carter at the President's Chase Medallion Ceremony.

The former United Technologies Corporation chief executive had a funny story to tell about the presentation. He had called the University to find out whether he was expected to make remarks of any kind. Gray was told to simply say "thank you."

And that's exactly what he planned on doing until he arrived at the event and found that he was, in fact, supposed to offer a few words to the assembly.

Vice President of Student Affairs Laura Tordenti, who is an admirer of Gray, approached him with a copy of an article entitled "Do You Remember Who Gave You Your First Break?" that he had written as part of a series between 1979 and 1985 and asked him to autograph it. He decided on the spot to use it for the basis of his remarks. In introducing Gray, President Carter described him as a man whose "vision is not about profit; it's about improving the life of man."

Digging it in Georgia

Amy Leandro and Todd Ostrowski, two environmental earth science majors, accompanied Professor Drew Hyatt on a trip to southern Georgia June 6-17 to collect sediment cores from lakes and from Georgia's "Little Grand Canyon," also known as Providence Canyon State Park. The Eastern team collaborated with groups from Valdosta State University (VSU) and the State University of West Georgia (SUWG).

During the upcoming academic year, Leandro and Ostrowski will independently study their findings, work that will be presented next spring at the annual Eastern undergraduate research conference, and at the annual meeting of the north-eastern section of the Geological Society of America.

Seniors Exhibit Art Work

Fifty senior art students displayed their work at the Annual Senior Art Exhibit in the Akus Gallery, May 13-23. The exhibiting seniors included Yolanda Avery, Rebecca Badger, Adam Barker, Charissa Bass, Marisa Battistoni, Ejaz Bhatti, Jennifer Borysewicz, Candice Brown, Alesha Causey, Melissa Chatelle, Amanda Christie, Eveline Cote, Roxanne Deojay, Adam Faucher, Jennifer Fernandez, Amber Gargoni, Bryan



Garmon, Marta Guisti, Adam Herb, Deshawn Johnson, Rebecca Kingsley, Eric LaFlamme, Wendy Lavigne, Jeremiah Macht, Craig McCahill, Sarabeth Merris, Janet Montalvo, Dagmar Noll, Danielisa Ortiz, Thomas Pinnix, Marja Prewitt, Michael Ramos, Kayanna Richards, Amanda Rodenhizer, Christine Schiche, Quintillian Scott, Antwane



EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

Stavis, Vikilynn Suslovic, Michelle Torelli, Ariel Valdes, Anne Vasbinder, Angela Wallace, Jason Wheat, Brian Weseman, Katy Wols, Kristin Zambarano, and Rebekkah Ziel.

Bits of the Bard in New York City

Performing Arts/Theatre students presented Bits of the Bard 2004 — Party, Party! at the Sargent Theatre in New York City on May 28-29. The production was part of the 10th Annual Connecticut State University (CSU) Off-Broadway Showcase of Student Talent. The show, conceived and directed by Professor Ellen Faith Brodie, is based on excerpts from 12 Shakespearean plays and sonnets that are interwoven with



Adam Herb, Kat Bacon, Matt Mello, Gabe Stalnaker, Matt Long, Heidi Stearns, Tonya Pellegrino, and Kristen Kenney.

Renaissance music compiled by Musical Director David Belles and Renaissance dances choreographed by Patty Smith. Eric Ouellette was the keyboard accompanist. Brodie's comedic script links the Shakespearean scenes as if the characters were at a party — meeting and greeting, flirting and flitting about — onstage and out front with the audience. The actors showcased were Katherine Bacon, Bridget Duggan, Jaclynn Hart, Adam Herb, Scott Kegler, Kristen Kenney, Matthew Long, Matthew Mello, Tonya Pellegrino, Gabriel Stalnaker, and Heidi Stearns. Students Jessica Donofrio, Bruce Farver, and Joshua Gilbert provided backstage support. Students and faculty also attended shows, took workshops, toured theatre venues, and met with theater professionals.

Correction:

In the May 14 edition of *Newsflash*, the top male bowler was identified as Bob Miderno. Bob's last name is Niderno. *Newsflash* regrets the error.

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