Murray Rosenthal’s
ONE MILLION PATIENTS
Remarkable record of achievement, impressively promising successors. The School of Dental Medicine celebrated the accomplishments of the class of 2007 at our Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 12. As students, this outstanding group was unfailingly conscientious, responsible, mature and constructive. We, the faculty and staff, share the pride of their families in their accomplishments; and we are confident that they will remain dedicated to our school’s ideals of integrity, excellence and service throughout their careers. I thought you might be interested in learning more about exactly how their respective careers will begin.

Seventy-five members, approximately 86 percent of the class, have been accepted into either specialty or postdoctoral general dentistry education programs. One will be pursuing training in periodontics; four in pediatric dentistry; three in oral and maxillofacial surgery; one in prosthodontics; and four in orthodontics. Forty-eight graduates will be enrolling in general practice residencies and 12 in advanced education in general dentistry programs. These outstanding School of Dental Medicine graduates have, like those before them, enjoyed amazing success in obtaining postgraduate program placements. The remaining 12 graduates have chosen direct entry into private practice. It is likely that, as in the past, most of the 87 members of this class will eventually locate in Western New York, joining 1,388 of our alumni in service to the people of this region.

As we bid farewell and best wishes to the class of 2007, we are preparing to welcome the class of 2011. This year, the school received 2,001 applications for 90 class positions, an increase of 17 percent over last year. The size and quality of the applicant pool has made the admissions process extremely competitive. The average test scores and GPA’s for those who have been accepted to date also increased this year. They are as follows: PAT – 19.43; DAT – 19.89; science GPA – 3.625; total GPA – 3.647. We are of course very pleased by these extremely favorable trends in academic qualifications, because they afford us the opportunity to select from among the best and brightest applicants in the state and nation. When we welcome the class of 2011 to our school and our profession during the Family Day ceremonies later this summer, it is likely that they will be the most highly qualified class in our institution’s history. In four short years, they, too, will be transformed into full-fledged health professionals, and I will be able to share with you the news of their achievements and future prospects.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Buchanan, DMD
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MURRAY ROSENTHAL’S ONE MILLION PATIENTS
A career dedicated to dental care for underserved populations

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PUBLICATION OF UBDENTIST IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.
New smoking intervention curriculum shows promise

In one of the few such programs in the nation, third- and fourth-year UB dental students are using non-judgmental tobacco counseling to encourage patients to quit.

Othman Shibly, DDS ’99, assistant professor of periodontics and endodontics, developed the program. In its first year, 51 percent of the 89 patients who accepted and received tobacco counseling from the student-dentists agreed to quit immediately. Of that number, 29 patients were still smoke-free after six months.

The student-dentists received eight hours of training on the effects of tobacco and on how to perform nonjudgmental and personalized tobacco-use assessment and counseling. They adhered to a modified version of the established “5 As” protocol:

“Ask” the patient about smoking habits.

“Advise” patients about the effects of tobacco.

“Assess” patients to determine their interest in quitting.

“Assist” patients who want to quit by offering nicotine patches and suggestions on how to avoid the temptation to smoke.

“Arrange” to call patients to see how they are doing.

The counseling program has been incorporated into the school’s curriculum.

SDM periodontics residents score highest in U.S. and Canada

School of Dental Medicine periodontics residents have again achieved outstanding results on the In-Service Examination. The examination is a comprehensive evaluation of clinical and basic sciences administered annually by the American Academy of Periodontology; 454 periodontics residents in the United States and Canada took the exam this year. SDM’s periodontics residents achieved a mean program score in the 97th percentile. First-year residents Tobias Boehm, DDS ’04, and Talal Zahid, DDS, achieved the top two scores nationally among all first-year students, and Shinsuke Onishi, DDS, obtained the highest score among all second-year students. Robert Cohen, DDS ’81, PhD ’87, program director of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics, credited this success to the quality of our residents and the participation of SDM faculty in clinics, graduate teaching and seminars.

Dominican Republic youth finds “Good People”

Eighteen-year-old Nathalie De la Cruz Vargas of the Dominican Republic was born with an unsightly, tumor-like birthmark on her right calf. As she grew, so did the birthmark, until it was softball-size and so painful she could not walk far or stand for long periods. Over time, she became increasingly self-conscious about the growth and would not show her legs in public—so she started to
The growth was also prone to infection that, without proper medical care, could have had devastating consequences.

While modern medicine makes it possible to remove such growths as the one that afflicted Nathalie, medical care in the Dominican Republic, especially for those of little means, is limited. During a Buffalo Outreach and Community Assistance (BOCA) dental mission in the Dominican Republic, Nathalie presented for dental care. Drs. Carlos Munoz and Maricarmen Justiniano and Eileen Fabiano, R.N., who were triaging patients at the dental clinic, followed up with questions regarding Nathalie’s complaint of a problem with her leg and were amazed that this young girl had not received more medical or surgical care. From this chance meeting came an opportunity that would change Nathalie’s life.

Eileen contacted Paula Moscato, vice president of Mission Integration at Sisters of Charity Hospital in Buffalo, to see if the hospital could help Nathalie. The answer was Yes. Paula and Grace Gallagher, BOCA’s contact in the Dominican Republic, arranged a medical visa for Nathalie. Vascular surgeon Joseph Anain Sr., his daughter Shirley, a Buffalo-area plastic surgeon, and son Paul, also a vascular surgeon, teamed up to remove the growth and reconstruct Nathalie’s damaged leg.

Buffalo’s generosity did not end there. Nathalie, who had trouble seeing for most of her life, was helped with an eye exam and reading glasses from the Lion’s Club. Dr. Justiniano provided additional dental care in the advanced education in general dentistry program at the school. All these professionals together gave Nathalie a chance she would never have found in her own country.

Nathalie, who speaks little English, was overwhelmed by the outpouring of friendship and generosity she received from the people of Western New York. Each time she left a health care provider, whether at Sisters Hospital or the School of Dental Medicine, she’d say, “Good People!” Nathalie returned to the Dominican Republic in April, eager to begin her new life.
It is a sign of our times that these four distinguished dental educators have combined for 145 years of teaching in the School of Dental Medicine and yet look too young for retirement. When Robert L. DeFranco, the longest serving of the four, began his tenure at the school, Lyndon Johnson was president, Woodstock was a few years in the future and the school was located downtown. Since then, he and professors Frederick M. McIntyre, Russell J. Nisengard and Lance F. Ortman have graduated almost 3,000 dentists. When you read the professional biographies that follow, you will see that all four retirees are themselves graduates of the School of Dental Medicine. They were inheritors of the spirit and history of the school; they have changed that heritage in their own ways and conveyed it forward through their students. Now, they leave the school for their successors to shape.
Robert L. DeFranco, DDS, retired from the Department of Restorative Dentistry with the rank of associate professor after 41 years of service. He received his BS from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y. and his DDS, with honors, in 1965 from the UB School of Dental Medicine. He was a recipient of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Award. Following graduation, he joined the school’s Department of Prosthodontics.

DeFranco is best known to students for his passion and dedication to teaching the fundamentals of restorative dentistry. He received the George B. Snow Award in Prosthetic Dentistry, was honored three times with the Excellence in Teaching award (1986, 1988 and 1991), was Dental Educator of the Year in 1969, and received the Outstanding Teacher of the Year award in 2006.

During his professional and academic career, DeFranco organized and taught many didactic, preclinical and clinical courses in the department. He served as the director of the restorative technique course, director of the removable partial denture technique laboratory, course director for practice management administration, director of the prosthodontic discipline and was tier director for Group B. At the postgraduate level, he taught and lectured to the prosthodontic residents.

DeFranco was president of the Erie County Dental Society, a member of the Auditing Committee of the American Prosthodontic Society, a member of the executive board of the Dental Association of Western New York, a consultant to the dental division for the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Buffalo and he is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry. At the school, he served as a member of the executive committee, a member of the curriculum committee, chair of the Faculty Practice Group, and he served on several ad hoc committees. He is a member of the American Dental Association, American Prosthodontic Society, Erie County Dental Society and American Dental Education Association.

Frederick M. McIntyre, DDS, MS, is retiring after 33 years of distinguished service in the Department of Restorative Dentistry.

McIntyre received his DDS in 1972, his certificate in prosthodontics in 1982 and his master of science in biomaterials in 1987, all from the UB School of Dental Medicine. He became a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics in 1991, the highest recognition given in prosthodontics, and was promoted to full clinical professor in 2002. From 1972 to 1980, he served in various capacities for the U.S. Navy and has served on many school and departmental committees.

McIntyre organized significant didactic and clinical courses in the school’s pre-doctoral curriculum, as well as in the advanced clinical specialty and graduate programs. He was director of preclinical studies in fixed prosthodontics and for many years led the fixed prosthodontics minors program; he directed the fixed prosthodontics esthetic dentistry elective, the senior fixed prosthodontics program and was tier director for Groups E and B. At the postgraduate level, he was director of the postgraduate prosthodontic program from 1998 to 2001, director and founder of the Esthetic Dentistry Education Center from 2001 to 2007 and a member of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry graduate faculty. The Esthetic Dentistry Education Center has served as a model for other teaching centers in the U.S. and has graduated many professionals in the art of esthetic dentistry. McIntyre also developed manuals for fixed prosthodontics, and made several educational videos for anterior esthetics.

McIntyre was inducted as a fellow of the International College of Dentists in 1990, as fellow of the American College of Prosthodontics in 1991, Omicron Kappa Upsilon in 1996 and fellow of the International Academy of Dental Facial Esthetics in 1997. He is a member of such professional and scientific societies as the American College of Prosthodontics,
American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics, American Dental Education Association, American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and is editor-in-chief of “Year Book of Dentistry.” He also holds appointments at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Buffalo and has served as consultant to many international dental companies. McIntyre has lectured extensively throughout the United States and Canada, as well as in India, Australia and Mexico.

Russell J. Nisengard, DDS, PhD, has retired from the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics and the Department of Microbiology after 37 years of service. He received his DDS from the UB School of Dental Medicine in 1966 and his specialty certificate in periodontology in 1970 and his PhD in microbiology from the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences the same year. He has been an educator, administrator, and researcher during his many years of service.

As an educator, Nisengard directed a number of programs in microbiology and periodontology and was recognized by students as Educator of the Year early in his career. Students dedicated their yearbook to him in 1975 and on numerous subsequent occasions honored him for his educational abilities and personal efforts on their behalf. He was recognized by the university for his teaching expertise and promoted to the rank of SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1991.

In the area of research, Nisengard attained national and international recognition for his work on immunologic studies of periodontal disease. He has published over 70 papers, contributed to 40 book chapters, has co-authored three textbooks and has served on editorial boards of the leading journals in periodontology.

As an administrator, he demonstrated his leadership and human resource skills while holding a number of executive positions in the school. Since 1993, he served as associate dean for advanced education and research. He was interim dean of the school for 18 months in 2000-01 and has been executive associate dean since 2005.

Nisengard is a member of the board of trustees of the American Academy of Periodontology. He has served as a member of the Council on Education of the Dental Society of the State of New York. Locally, he has served as an officer of Alpha Omega fraternity and has served as president of the Buffalo chapter of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the Western New York Periodontal Study Club and currently is president of the University at Buffalo Dental Alumni Association.

Lance F. Ortman, DDS, MS, retired as a full-time associate professor after 34 years of service in the Department of Restorative Dentistry. Ortman graduated with honors from the UB School of Dental Medicine in 1973, completed his certificate in prosthodontics in 1975 and his master’s in oral sciences in 1980. He is the third generation of a distinguished family of dentists who have graduated from UB.

Ortman was active as a teacher, mentor and researcher. He occupied several positions in the school, including director of University Dental Associates and associate chair and interim chair of the Department of Restorative Dentistry; he held the position of associate dean for clinical affairs for eight years. He was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 1983. Ortman has also served on many school and departmental committees, including the executive council of University Dental Associates and the curriculum, progress and promotions, and other ad hoc committees.

Throughout his career, Ortman received funded grants to study image analysis and the effect of different variables on alveolar bone loss.

He is an active member of such professional organizations as Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the Academy of Prosthodontics, the International Association of Dental Research, the American Dental Education Association and the Eighth District Dental Society. He holds two patents in intraoral radiographic alignment devices.
CHRONIC GUM DISEASE–TONGUE CANCER LINK FOUND

Researchers at the UB School of Dental Medicine and Roswell Park Cancer Institute have shown for the first time that an association exists between long-standing periodontitis and risk of tongue cancer.

The study found that the risk of tongue cancer due to chronic gum disease increased five-fold with every millimeter of alveolar bone loss. The association existed even in the absence of a history of smoking.

Results of the study appeared in the May issue of Archives of Otolaryngology: Head and Neck Surgery. Mine Tezal, DDS, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, SDM, and research scientist at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, was first author.

“We expected to see an association, given the results of earlier studies linking chronic infections and inflammation to cancer risk in other organs,” said Tezal, “but we didn’t expect to see such a clear association with a relatively small sample size.

“If this association is confirmed in larger studies with a broader population and in other oral cancer sites, it will have a significant impact on our understanding of the causes and origin of oral cancer, as well as its prevention and control.”

The study compared panoramic dental X-rays of 51 white males newly diagnosed with tongue cancer with records of 54 white males without cancer. All patients were seen in the Department of Dentistry and Maxillofacial Prosthetics at Roswell Park Cancer Institute between June 1999 and November 2005. Persons less than 21 years of age, those with no teeth, and those with a history of any type of cancer, cancer therapy, oral pre-cancerous lesions, immunodeficiency or autoimmune disorders were excluded from the study.

Measurements of alveolar bone loss in all patients were made by the same periodontist, who did not know the cancer status of study participants.

After eliminating in the analysis the potential effects of age, smoking status, and number of existing teeth, persons with chronic gum disease were 5.2 times more likely to have tongue cancer with every millimeter of bone loss than those without gum disease, Tezal and colleagues found. Other conditions involving the teeth—decay, fillings, crowns and root canals—had no significant effect on the incidence of tongue cancer, results showed.

MOLECULE THAT DESTROYS BONE ALSO PROTECTS IT

An immune system component that is a primary cause of bone destruction and inflammation in autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis actually protects bone in the oral cavity from infectious pathogens that play a major role in periodontal disease in humans.

The component, IL-17, was recognized only in the past 18 months to be a primary cause of bone destruction and inflammation in autoimmune diseases. Therapies that target IL-17 or its cellular receptor currently are being developed.

However, a UB molecular biologist has discovered that, in contrast to its action in rheumatoid arthritis (RA), IL-17 actually protects bone in the oral cavity from infectious pathogens such as Porphyromonas gingivalis, a bacterium that plays a major role in most periodontal disease in humans. The findings appeared in the May issue of the journal Blood.

Sarah L. Gaffen, PhD, associate professor of oral biology in the UB School of Dental Medicine and associate professor of microbiology and immunology in the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, was senior author. Jeffrey J. Yu, a medical student and doctoral candidate who is a researcher working in Gaffen’s lab, was first author.

Gaffen and colleagues conducted the research in mice bred to have no receptors for IL-17. Other researchers had shown previously, using rats and mice as animal models, that blocking the receptor for IL-17 could be an effective therapy for RA and possibly for other autoimmune diseases such as multiple sclerosis, colitis, psoriasis and lupus. The effects of an IL-17 deficiency in periodontal disease, however, were unknown before now.

by Lois Baker
What can you do if you live through a golden age in your thirties, and things are never as good again? If you are Murray Rosenthal (DDS ’63), you do what you can. Tirelessly.

The “golden age” he lost was the time when federally funded neighborhood health centers were spun out of the tornado of social reform set off by Lyndon Johnson’s War on Poverty; when a young dentist from Rochester, imbued with what he now calls “Kennedy-era idealism,” could move to the Bronx to work in the Martin Luther King Health Center and be in step with the times; when he could work in a poor community alongside researchers from Montefiore Hospital and MIT’s Sloan School of Business developing new approaches to social medicine.
Murray Rosenthal had just come home from a tour of duty with the 17th Aviation Battalion in Vietnam where he set up a clinic and practiced a kind of one-man community dentistry in his spare time—and, along the way, was awarded a Bronze Star. After his first foray into community health in the Bronx, he earned a certificate in periodontics from Columbia University; he also completed a dual fellowship in community medicine and computer application in medicine at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. In the mid-1970s, in association with Mount Sinai, he was the founding dentist in the Boriken Neighborhood Health Center in East Harlem where, in addition to setting up a community dental practice, he trained neighborhood women as dental assistants. He was on the ground when the new National Health Service Corps started bringing health care to underserved communities. They were great days.

Rosenthal consulted for the Resource Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services, visiting community health centers as the “federal dentist,” advising on dental services in community health centers. He had, in the meanwhile, started a practice in periodontics that he still maintains on the Upper West Side in Manhattan, seeing patients two and a half days a week. He also worked intensively with the Region II Office of Public Health Service providing technical services to federally supported community health center dental clinics in New York and New Jersey. He used his computer background to devise systems for resource management and quality assurance that were used for two decades. But the tide was already receding from the high water mark in community health.

It happens that when you work with people outside your practice, they may wind up in your chair. In Murray Rosenthal’s case it was two people who had worked with him at the Boriken Health Center and the Region II office. Not much small talk about weather with these patients. Both of them told him, in his recollection, “We’ve got to get you in the city.” In 1987 Rosenthal was appointed director of the Bureau of Dental Health Services in the New York City Department of Health. The “federal dentist” now was “New York City’s dentist.”

HIV-AIDS was the health issue in the city that trumped all others then, but Rosenthal (who remembers preparing for sieges when it looked like protests might flow into the department’s offices) managed an overhaul of the city’s dental clinics, getting services out of outmoded 1930s-era clinics and into dental vans and portable clinics that could go where the needs had gone over the previous half century. He built an elaborate information system and captured good data: when budgets tightened, he was able to preserve his programs with unassailable numbers on the value of the city’s dental services. By 1991, he says, he was burned out. He left the city post and took a consulting position with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

He continued to practice and consult. The city called him back to renovate four dental clinics. He served on the grant review committee for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Caring for Kids initiative that eventually funded dental clinics in seven school-based health centers—and he made site visits to the programs. The visits showed him what he already knew, that it takes specialized knowledge to organize and manage a dental practice in a school clinic. But the clinics are almost always run by physicians and nurse practitioners who aren’t familiar with dental practice. So he produced “Dr. Rosenthal’s Toolkit,” an online manual for operating a dental clinic. It is posted on the Web site of the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools where it receives as many as 200 visits a week according, to Julia Lear, who directs the center.
“I’m Murray’s biggest fan,” Lear says. “Every time something dental comes up here, I pick up the phone and call him.”

When Beverly Colon was named director of health services for the Children’s Aid Society of New York, which provides health, education, and social services to more than 150,000 children a year, she called Rosenthal and asked him to consult for her on dental health services. They’d worked together in East Harlem. “We were stuck, trying to figure out what we wanted our dental services to be for children in the city,” she says. She knew that when he saw the kids and the kinds of programs Children’s Aid was running, he’d be hooked. She was right. So Rosenthal is now director of dental services at Children’s Aid.

Today, he can describe Children’s Aid’s new orthodontic clinic, Casa de Sonrisas (House of Smiles) in a public school in Washington Heights—the first orthodontic clinic located in a New York City public school—with the high-intensity enthusiasm and urgency of a young man present at the birth of a golden age of social medicine.

“Kids want orthodonture,” he says “They know how important teeth are for success. But it’s expensive. Parents will pay whatever they can but many of them can’t afford as much as orthodonture costs. The clinic caps the cost of treatment at $3,000 and we charge $75 a month. We know the parents will find it.” And for the children with extreme bite problems, the new clinic will be able to offer orthognathic surgery through an arrangement with the residency program at nearby Saint Barnabas Hospital. The clinic is adjacent to the school’s general dental clinic, so the oral health of the orthodonture patients can be followed there.

Rosenthal describes the most extreme cases Casa de Sonrisas will be able to treat as “these beautiful faces with ruined mouths.” If he could, he’d change the way the nation responds to the needs of anyone who doesn’t have appropriate access to dental care, but especially children. Short of that, and despite murmuring about retirement some day, he’ll go on changing what he can. Has he touched a million patients yet? Probably more.

Thanks, Dr. Rosenthal!

Kellie Greenich, DDS ’07, just started a residency in pediatric dentistry at Women and Children’s Hospital of Buffalo. She knows Murray Rosenthal because she was a recipient of a Rosenthal Family Scholarship.

“Dr. Rosenthal is one of the most enthusiastic and caring people I know. He doesn’t just sign a check,” Kellie says.

The Rosenthal Family Scholarship, which Murray Rosenthal established and which also represents his father Garson “George” Rosenthal, DDS ’34, BS ’33, who died in 2005, and his younger brother Dean A. Rosenthal, DDS ’76, BA ’72, supports part of the tuition for three students every year.

Rosenthal reaches out directly to his scholarship recipients, coming to Buffalo at least once a year for dinner with them, and he makes a point of staying in touch by e-mail, even after they graduate.

He says he wants to “allow these young people to develop themselves instead of worrying about survival issues. They need to know someone is rooting for them.”

“He’s become a most valued mentor, a friend, and someone I aspire to emulate,” Kellie says. “He has always been interested in my progress.”

He tells students about his work but he won’t tell them what to do. But some of Murray may rub off.

“After these two years of residency, I will finally be living my dream to treat children and make a difference in their lives,” Kellie Greenich says.
Alumni and friends of the School of Dental Medicine may be interested to learn that a special, but temporary, opportunity exists for making outright gifts to the school. The Pension Protection Act signed into law in 2006 allows any individual age 70½ or older to contribute up to $100,000 in 2007 from a traditional IRA—free of federal income tax.

Before this legislation, any life-time distribution from an IRA was subject (in whole or in part) to federal income tax, regardless of the age of the donor or the charitable nature of the gift. For example, if a 75-year-old donor in the 35 percent tax bracket transferred $100,000 from an IRA directly to a charity, the donor would have been treated as having received $100,000 of additional gross income. For 2007, the responsibility to pay federal income tax on such gifts is abated.

If you are 70½ or older and wish to financially support the School of Dental Medicine and/or any other comparable organization, the charitable IRA rollover provides a wonderful opportunity to maximize use of tax-deferred investments while also achieving your personal philanthropic goals.

While we encourage you to consult with your IRA plan administrator, you may be interested in the following points regarding the charitable IRA rollover:

- The charitable IRA rollover gifts you make will, in whole or in part, satisfy the mandatory minimum distribution you may be required to take from your IRA in 2007.
- The charitable IRA rollover distribution will be deemed to come first from the taxable portion of your IRA.
- The transfer of IRA funds must be made directly from the IRA plan administrator to the charity. Donors should not personally withdraw funds from an IRA and then forward the proceeds or endorse the check to the charity. Most IRA plan administrators will have established an easy process for facilitating such gifts on your behalf.
- You can roll over up to $100,000 in traditional IRA assets to charity in 2007; you can have such funds distributed to one or more charities.
- Charitable IRA rollover gifts cannot be made from employer-sponsored retirement plans such as Simple IRAs, 401(k)s, and 403(b)s.
- The tax benefits allowed for charitable IRA rollover gifts will not apply to gifts directed to donor advised funds or some supporting organizations.

If you are interested in making a charitable IRA rollover gift or would like to receive additional information, please contact Carol Vanini, Director of Development, School of Dental Medicine, at (716) 829-3931 or Wendy Irving, Assistant Vice President for Planned Giving, at (716) 829-2632, ext. 280 or toll-free at (877) 825-3422 (UB Legacy).

I was the baby of the class and loved everyone in it. I was following in my dad’s footsteps—he graduated from UB in 1914—and I wanted to be the best dentist ever to graduate from UB. I always felt a sense of belonging at the school and I always appreciated the warmth, kindness and understanding of fellow students, faculty and administration. When people ask me what I did for a living, I tell them ‘I was a darn good dentist from Buffalo, N.Y.’

LAWRENCE COMFORT, DDS ’49, MD ’52, AN ORAL SURGEON WHO PRACTICED IN CALIFORNIA AND TAUGHT AT STANFORD MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR THREE DECADES, USED THE 2007 IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A GIFT TO THE SCHOOL. HE AND HIS WIFE BERNICE TYRAN COMFORT, MD ’52, HAVE SEVEN CHILDREN (INCLUDING CHRISTOPHER, DDS ’86). HIS IRA ROLLOVER GIFT BENEFITS THE CLASS OF 1949 SCHOLARSHIP FUND.
On the evening of April 14, the masses gathered at the Buffalo State College Arena for the 2007 installment of Hanau Cup hockey. The match was a spirited game involving students, faculty and alumni in traditional HC fashion. Gone are the years of true student-versus-faculty games that were the highlights of the 70s and 80s. The institution continues as an opportunity for students and alumni to become acquainted through the great game of ice hockey. Alumni traveled from Endicott and Massena, N.Y.; Macedonia, Ohio; and Toronto, Canada to participate.

The game started as a tremendous battle between two great goalies, Ed Tyska ’98 and Carl Scruggs ’80. Neither gave up a goal in a half hour of play that was nonstop, end-to-end action. Then the reality of pick-up hockey took over. Defense was abandoned in favor of offensive chances and the goaltenders were left to fend for themselves. They played admirably but the goals started coming at a rapid pace with a final score of 13-12.

Who won? Who cares? (Who knows?) That argument carried on during the Buffalo-style postgame party of beer and chicken wings at the Steer on Main Street in Buffalo. The group gathered to celebrate a great game and in HC tradition rekindle old friendships and make new ones.

After the celebration, the Hanau Cup itself could not be found. After weeks of anxious concern, requests for ransom began to appear in what we can only hope is a senior dental student prank. Details for the safe return are being worked out as of this writing.

The game and postgame party were sponsored by the UB Dental Alumni Association, with a generous donation from Peter Atkinson of Dental Dynamics.

In addition to heroic goalies Carl Scruggs ’80 and Ed Tyska ’98, the other participants in this year’s Hanau battle were Jim Matteliano ’80, Fred Rodems ’80, Bob Warner ’81, John Lucchese Jr. ’84, Ray Miller ’85, Ken Lee ’89, Soti Atzemis ’91, Lou Giordano ’91, Jim Vlahos ’92, Todd Russell ’94, Josh Gish ’06, Drew Templeman ’06, Andy Dusel ’07, Tom Martin ’07, Geoff Duviner ’09, Ryan O’Malley ’09, Bryan May ’09, Erin Topley ’09, Mike Nagai ’10, and Kameron Schaberg ’10. You’ll find them all in the picture accompanying this account.

The Hanau Cup hockey game is an annual event held in the spring. If you are interested in playing—or keeping score—contact the alumni office. We’ll put you on the HC mailing list.
The impressive accomplishments and immediate future plans of the class of 2007 are the subject of Dean Buchanan’s message in this issue of UB Dentist. We are pleased to increase the ranks of our alumni by the 87 men and women listed here, Doctors of Dental Surgery now. Congratulations to them all.

Sasha Alexander
Daniel N. Alleman
Nahid Amjadi
Donald J. Annicelle
Noorolhoda Aslani
Robert M. Aszkler
Jennifer C. Berner
David Burdette, Jr.
John C. Castanaro
James C. Castelo
Wei-Yi Yvonne Chao
Jin Choi
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Garison Couser
David I. Dahl
Caroline M. Danish
James R. Davies
Brian Davis
Amy M. Dawli
Jeremy D. DeBottis
Joseph T. DeLuca
Brandon DeWitt
Aman Dhir
Andrew J. Dusel
Tina M. Frangella
Jordan A. Green
Kellie Greenich
Tracey Guitard
Wendy Haefner
Javeriah S. Haleem

Zainab Hameer
Edward Emad Hassan
Emilie Herbsen
Jonathan J. Hochreiter
John D. Iaculli
Robert T. Jenkins
Shawn F. Jordan
Timothy Kalrater
Lindsey M. Keck
Yuri Khadsan
Nanmy Lee
Jeffrey B. Levy
Tsao-Yin Liu
Mike Wei-Ting Lu
Heather A. MacDonald
Ian Mapes
Anita L. Mariani
Thomas A. Martin
Thomas P. McCue IV
Tyler W. Mead
Soheila Mehrbani
Breckglyn R. Miller
Victoria L. Milward
Michael A. Molisani
David Morrison
Huy Nguyen
Mikhail Nosov
Jon W. Ohnezeit
Elizabeth Pacia
Pratik R. Patel
Vilma V. Pelaez
Eshlan Rakhmanov
Carolyn F. Riley
Joshua S. Rolfick
Laura Ruof
Kavi Sagunarthi
Joseph M. Salamon
Peter T. Sciarrino
Candace R. Scruggs
Mary E. Sheehan
Laura Sileo
Joseph C. Sleilati
Janel L. Smith
Sunny J. Spinoza
Sergiu Stoica
Amy E. Suhr
Maximilian Tsui
Walter Villanueva
Aaron Wachtel
Eleanor C. Wilkins
Philip D. Williams II
Nicole R. Wolfgrom
Richard P. Wolfgrom II
Robert K. M. Yong

Mary Sheehan ’07 (center) with sister Julie Sheehan Jones ’97 and father Richard Sheehan ’62.

Welcoming New Alumni

REUNION CLASS CHAIRS FOR 2007

Make plans to celebrate during the Buffalo Niagara Dental Meeting. This year’s reunion dinner dance will be held in the Hyatt Regency Ballroom, Friday, October 26, 2007. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m. Join your reunion chairs for a great night out.

1947
Harry A. Sultz
Robert C. Gartler

1952
Vincent Jagodzinski
John Canney
Julius J. Juron

1957
Joseph LaNasa
Edward Kucio
Michael Marfino
Richard Stiegler

1972
Michael Hess
Peter Mascari

1977
Alan M. Patrignani
Bruce D. Parker

1982
Frances L. Deplato
Michael N. Hatton
Mark Mahaney
Joseph S. Modica
Peter Purcell
Gretta Tomb

1987
Robert J. Buhite II
Steven M. Chichetti
David P. Croglio

1992
John Tibbetts

1997
Julie M. Sheehan Jones

2002
Timothy J. Abbamonte
Rachael A. Rossitto
Joseph L. Rumfola
Alfred E. Falcone, John E. Laura and Verdi F. Carsten of the Class of 1947 (left to right) met in February 2007 for their 60th mini-reunion. They reminisced about their time in dental school with the usual stories regarding the “iron” room, the “hot foots,” opinions regarding certain memorable professors and much more. Dr. Falcone reports they never tire of telling the same stories.

David L. Schnur ’53, Ortho ’59 retired from his New Jersey practice of orthodontics and moved to Newport Beach, Calif. He is currently a volunteer police officer with the California Highway Patrol and he also works with the Orange County Sheriff.

John V. Lucchese Jr. ’84 received a fellowship from the International Congress of Oral Implantology in Philadelphia. Dr. Lucchese currently has offices in Kenmore and Cheektowaga, N.Y.

Brian J. Jackson ’89 recently spoke at the 2007 India International Dental Congress in Mumbai, India. He joined some of the leading practitioners in the world in the field of oral implantology. After the meeting, he traveled to New Delhi and Chennai as a faculty member of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID)’s Maxicourse in Oral Implantology-India. The Maxicourse is in its fourth year and has trained over 250 Indian doctors.

Dr. Jackson is the current President of the Northeast District of the AAID. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry (ABVID) and a fellow of the AAID. He is a partner in the practice of Slavin, Jackson & Burns DDS, located at 2534 Genesee St, Utica, NY.

Richard Ohrbach MS ’89, TMD ’89 was presented with the Society for the Advancement of Science Award, given by the Dental Student Research Group (SRG) on Research Day, March 8, 2007. The award is given to a member of the dental school who have helped the SRG and whose contributions and support has been invaluable in fostering the principles of student research. Dr. Ohrbach is currently a professor in the Dept. of Oral Diagnostic Sciences, School of Dental Medicine.

Sonny Spera ’89 recently opened his third dental office in Norwich, N.Y. He also added the additional responsibility of becoming girl’s varsity basketball coach at Maine Endwell High School. Dr. Spera reports that his son, Marcus, just turned 16.

Heidi Crow MS ’91, TMD ’91 was re-elected in March 2007 to a second three-year term as Counselor of the Postdoctoral General Dentistry Section in ADEA. Dr. Crow is currently associate professor in the Dept. of Oral Diagnostic Sciences, School of Dental Medicine.

Judith Lampasso DDS ’93, MS ’96, PhD ’02 and Ryann Bevilacqua DDS ’04, MS ’07, have opened Lampasso Bevilacqua Orthodontics, a new practice in East Amherst, N.Y.

Darren E. Loew ’97 opened a second Loew Orthodontics office in Flemington, N.J. in March 2007. Dr. Loew initially practiced general dentistry in Binghamton, N.Y., where he was raised. He received his orthodontic training at the Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, where he served as the chief resident and remains an attending faculty member. Dr. Loew received additional advanced training in TMJ and occlusion at the prestigious RothWilliams Center in San Francisco.

Benita D. Sobieraj ’97, GPR ’98 has been awarded the 2007 OKU Charles Craig Teaching Award, which recognizes young dental educators who have implemented innovative teaching techniques in dental education. Dr. Sobieraj is currently clinical assistant professor, Dept. of Restorative Dentistry, School of Dental Medicine.

Todd L. Havens ’98 and John A. Havens ’98, clinical assistant professors in the Dept. of Restorative Dentistry, School of Dental Medicine, along with John J. Bonghi ’68, former clinical assistant professor in the Dept. of Behavioral Sciences, announced the formation of Bonghi & Havens, DDS, PLLC. The practice originally established in 1971 is located in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Patrick Dentico ’99 and Melissa Bell-Dentico ’99 opened their own general practice office in Tivoli, N.Y. in 2006. They live in Rhinebeck, N.Y. with their two children, Emma (3 years old) and Lucas (2 years old).

John Laura is a member of the “Tell America Committee” of the Korean War Veterans Association. His is shown here at a Syracuse, N.Y. middle school talking about the geography of Korea and how he practiced dentistry in the field during the Korean War. He and another veteran brought pictures and souvenirs of the Korean War. The other veteran, an infantry soldier, discussed the fighting.
Regina Stryapko '01 is in the third year in her own dental practice in Gaithersburg, Md. From a one-doctor restorative practice, it has grown to a multi-specialty, comprehensive dental office due to Dr. Stryapko’s hard work and good heart. Her husband, Dmitriy Itskovich ’01, recently joined the practice. Patients love Dr. Regina because she takes care of them as her own family and that makes it a “family practice.”

Daniel Kuncio ’03 graduated from the orthodontic residency program at Montefiore Hospital in 2006, and recently passed the American Board of Orthodontics phase III exam in St. Louis. He’s in private practice in Manhattan and Bayside, N.Y., where he joined his mother, Zenovia Didoshak-Kuncio ’72, in general practice.

Yoly Gonzalez-Stucker ’05, MS ’95, TM ’96, and Perio ’02 was honored with the Partners of the Year Award, given by the Partners for Prevention of N.Y.S. This award recognizes the collaborative work being done to provide access to smoking cessation programs, as well as cancer screening to the UB Dental patient population. She also created and participated in the Spanish version of the CD for the N.Y.S. Smokers’ Quitline. Dr. Gonzalez-Stucker is currently assistant professor in the Dept. of Oral Diagnostic Sciences, School of Dental Medicine.

Kyung E. Lee ’06 is currently enrolled in the AEGD program at Columbia University in N.Y. This fall he will extend his education in New York University’s endodontic program.

In Memoriam
Lewis Lipson ’63
Thomas J. Leary ’76
Thomas J. Leary died April 11, 2007. He was 57. Leary was a graduate of Canisius High School, Canisius College and the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. He worked his way through college, and during vacations he was a customs inspector at the Peace Bridge. Leary took over the practice of his late godfather, Thomas Fahey, in 1976. His dental office, originally located at Seneca and Cazenovia streets, moved to Seneca at Burch Avenue in 1996. “A reputation for prompt, compassionate treatment and reasonable fees accompanied the relocation,” said his brother, Mark S. Leary of Snyder. Leary was a member of the 8th District Dental Society.

NEXT SUMMER: ALASKA

MAKE PLANS NOW TO JOIN COLLEAGUES FROM IOWA FOR THE UB/IOWA DENTAL CE CRUISE TO ALASKA, JULY 18-25, 2008

ITINERARY:
Seattle » The Inside Passage » Ketchikan u Hubbard Glacier » Juneau » Victoria, B.C. » Seattle

CRUISE PRICES STARTING AT:
Interior Stateroom • $1,399
Ocean View Stateroom • $1,659
Balcony Stateroom • $2,029
Concierge Class Balcony Stateroom • $2,199
Sky Suite • $3,199
3rd and 4th in a Stateroom • $999

Prices are per person based on double occupancy and subject to availability. Taxes and port charges are included.

NEW DRUG THERAPY CHALLENGES IN DENTAL PRACTICE
Karen Baker, RPh, MS Pharm, associate professor, Department of Oral Pathology, Radiology and Medicine, College of Dentistry, and Clinical Pharmacy Division, College of Pharmacy, University of Iowa.

Karen Baker occupies a unique role in dental practice and education. She is a clinical pharmacist with a MS degree in clinical pharmacology and therapeutics and is focused on patient-specific dental drug therapy. She has given nearly 700 programs nationally and internationally. Her dental education-based pharmacy and drug therapy consultation center is the only one in the United States. She has authored more than 50 articles and abstracts and lectures extensively in pre-doctoral and graduate-level courses at the University of Iowa.

10 CE credit hours ADA/CERP

TUITION
Dentist/doctors • $295
Non-doctor team member • $175
[WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24 - 5:30–8:00 P.M.]

Opening Night Celebration
Supported by Ivoclar Vivadent Inc.

[THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25]

Ten latest trends in practice management*
Char Sweeney, CDPMA
Supported in part by educational grants from CareCredit & Patterson Dental

Tin roofs, tofflemires and ten thousand smiles: Volunteer dentistry*
Jude Fabiano, DDS ’77
Alumni Speaker Series

Retirement investment strategies and self-employed retirement plans*
Edward Deicke and Joseph E. DiSanza
Supported by an educational grant from North Shore Wealth Management

CPR; MP Emergency Response Training
Women’s wellness: An oral health perspective
Barbara Steinbert, DDS and Linda Blackiston, RDH
Supported by an educational grant from Philips/Sonicare

Utilization of advanced technologies in detecting oral cancer and potentially malignant diseases
Scott Benjamin, DDS ’78
Alumni Speaker Series

Forensic Odontology: The tales that teeth tell!
Dean Cherpelis, DDS ’88
Alumni Speaker Series

Invisalign—it’s application and today’s orthodontist/GP team approach
Doug Wright, DDS and Peter S. Rivoli, DDS ’86
Alumni Speaker Series

Michael A. MeenanGhan Symposium on Implant Dentistry
The future is now
Jack T. Krauser, DMD
Supported by an educational grant from Nobel Biocare

So... what's new in infection control?
Harold Edelman, DDS

Teamwork strategies: From sabotage to support*
Char Sweeney, CDPMA
Supported, in part, by educational grants from CareCredit & Patterson Dental

Endodontics on the cutting edge
Stephen P. Niemczyk, DMD
Supported by an educational grant from Tulsa Dental

Dental office regulatory management issues
Al Frost, DDS ’83
Alumni Speaker Series

Current army medical and dental capability
Major General Russell J. Czerw, DDS ’87
Alumni Speaker Series

Stress Management: Forever*
David Farrugia, EdD

Lasers in dentistry: The basics and beyond!!
Scott Benjamin, DDS ’78
Alumni Speaker Series

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

Dentures for the baby boomers: The next generation denture patient
Joseph Massad, DDS
Supported by an educational grant from Dentsply Caulk

3rd Annual Alan J. Drinnan Memorial Symposium
AIDS in the 21st century: Our responsibility as professionals
Stuart Fischman, DMD
Alumni Speaker Series

Update on medical conditions of interest to the dentist
Terrence J. Thines, DDS ’75, MS
Alumni Speaker Series

How to age gracefully
Tracey Bernardoni
Supported by an educational grant from Gold’s Gym

CPR; MP Emergency Response Training
Diabetes Mellitus: Strategies for providing comprehensive care  
JoAnn Gurenlian, RDH, PhD  
Supported, in part, by an educational grant from Colgate

Esthetic dentistry and materials update  
Gerard Kugel, DMD, MS, PhD  
Supported, in part, by educational grants from Kerr & Orascoptic

All-ceramic restorations: Materials selection to cementation  
Thomas T. Teel, DDS  
Supported by an educational grant from Ivoclar Vivadent Inc.

Exceeding patient expectations: Beyond their beautiful smiles  
Bradley S. Portenoy, DDS ’85  
Alumni Speaker Series

Medical emergencies in the dental office  
Richard E. Hall, DDS ’78  
Alumni Speaker Series

Organize your practice with proven practice management systems  
Randy Bird  
Supported by an educational grant from Sullivan Schein

Complete wellness program for the whole office  
Dr. David E. Jauch Jr. and Jared Byer

Risk Management  
John Asaro, DDS ’73 and Kevin Ricotta, JD

So... what’s new in infection control?  
Harold Edelman, DDS

Oral Medicine: Linking systemic diseases with oral health care  
JoAnn Gurenlian, RDH, PhD  
Supported, in part, by an educational grant from Colgate

Contemporary periodontal management  
Larry Sweeting, DDS  
Supported by an educational grant from Orapharma

“Make me smile” with implants: esthetics problems  
James L. Soltys, DDS

Supported by an educational grant from Straumann USA

NYS amalgam separator law explained  
Michael Darcy  
Supported by an educational grant from M.A.R.S. Bio-Med Processes Inc.

*May not meet requirements for mandatory NYS continuing dental education credits.

**Register Early: Pre-Registration Closes Thursday, Oct. 11, 2007 and Prices Go Up!**

Cancellation Policy:
Written requests for a refund must be received by Oct. 11, 2007.  
• Cancellation fee of $25 will apply to all cancellations.  
• No refunds issued after Oct. 11.

For more information, call: 800-756-0328, ext. 2 or (716) 829-2061 or visit our Web site at www.ubdentalalumni.org.

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Recognition for members of the
Class of 2007

Academy of Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities: Kellie Greenich, Ryan P. Colosi
Academy of General Dentistry: Benjamin Clauss
Academy of Operative Dentistry: Wendy Haefner
Alpha Omega Fraternity: John D. Iaculli
American Academy of Dental Practice Administration: Richard P. Wolfgramm II
American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry: Brian Davis
American Academy of Gold Foil Operators: Jennifer C. Berner
American Academy of Implant Dentistry: Tracey Guizard
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology: Zainab Hameer
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology: Tracey Guizard
American Academy of Oral Medicine: Donald J. Annicelle
American Academy of Orofacial Pain: Tyler W. Mead
American Academy of Osseointegration: Elizabeth Pacia
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Preadoctoral Student: Walter Villanueva
American Academy of Periodontology: Sasha Alexander
American Association of Endodontists: Andrew J. Dusel, Sunny John Cosmo Spinosa
American Association of Oral Biologists: Shawn F. Jordan
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons: Jordan A. Greenberg
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Implant: Amy M. Dawner
American Association of Orthodontists: Andrew J. Dusel
American Association of Public Health Dentistry: Lindsey M. Keck
American College of Dentists: Wendy Haefner
American College of Prosthodontists: Tsao-yin Liu
American College of Prosthodontists: Tsao-Yin Liu
American Dental Society of Anesthesiology: Candace R. Scruggs
ASDA Award of Excellence: Amy E. Suhr
Barrett Foundation: John D. Iaculli
Eleanor Bushee: Vilma V. Pelaez
Dr. Samuel A. Caccamise: Philip Williams II
James Collord Memorial: Kellie Greenich
Delta Sigma Delta: John D. Iaculli
Dental Alumni: Janel L. Smith
Dentsply Merit: Benjamin Clauss
Erie County Dental Society: Chester A. Glor: Andrew J. Dusel
The Pierre Fauchard Academy: Jennifer C. Berner
Fonzi Dental Study Club, Anthony S. Gugino Humanitarian: Donald J. Annicelle
Victor A. Fumia: 1st Place: John D. Iaculli, 2nd Place: Brian Davis
International College of Dentists: Robert K.M. Yong
International Congress of Oral Implantologists: Kavi Sagunarthi
Edwin C. Jauch: Brian Davis
Donald Kozlowski Memorial: Garison Couser, Jeffrey B. Levy
Robert B. Levine: Nahid Amjadi
NYS Dental Foundation Dean’s: Andrew J. Dusel
NYSSOMS Oral Surgery: James R. Davies
The Northeastern Society of Periodontists: Tobias W. Corcoran
Omicron Kappa Upsilon: Nooral-hoda Aslani, Robert Michael M. Aszkler, Andrew J. Dusel, John D. Iacully, Shawn F. Jordan, Michael A. Molisani, Mikhail Nosov, Candace R. Scruggs, Janel L. Smith, Nicole R. Wolfgramm
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Research: Shawn F. Jordan

These awards were presented on May 11, 2007 at SDM’s Senior Recognition Banquet.