For what is a Howie? A Hawk by any other name . . .

He has been known as Harry, Manny, and most recently Howie, but where did the University of Hartford Hawk really come from?

According to a popular legend, the basketball team of the University’s predecessor, Hillyer College, was called the “Flying Hawks” because their gymnasium was located on the top floor of the Hillyer College building, among the rafters. However, information provided by the Hillyer College newspaper The Hillyer Callboard suggests that the name may in fact have been coined by College Bursar C. Richard Ericson.

The earliest documented reference to the famous Hawk can be found in an article by John J. Barry appearing in the October 17, 1947 issue of the Callboard. According to Barry, the Hawk was the brainchild of Bursar Ericson. After a college-wide student contest failed to produce any acceptable suggestions, Ericson decided to research the topic of student mascots. After reading extensively on the subject, Ericson concluded that a Hawk be a suitable image for Hillyer. The Hawk would not confuse with mascots used by other colleges at the time and would be a compelling symbol. Ericson then obtained a sketch of the “Fightin’ Hawk” from an artist at Walt Disney studios. Unfortunately, the name of that artist and the circumstances under which he agreed to create the mascot’s pictorial image are lost to history.

The significance of the 1947 Hawk’s top hat and cane and the relationship of these accessories to the concept of a “fightin’” mascot are also mysterious. This early Hawk may be modeled on the little man in the Monopoly game. Alternatively, the Hawk may owe his attributes to entertainer Fred Astaire.

In 1953 additional drawings of the hawk were penned by student Jim Starbuck of New Britain. The Hawk continued to evolve and in illustrations today he still has a cartoonish, but more modern look. Today’s Hawk no longer sports a top hat and cane. He wears instead a more informal white jersey with red and blue lettering and sturdy athletic shoes.

At one time live hawks served as mascots for the team. According to the 1948 Hillyer yearbook, two live Hawks accompanied the basketball team during the 1948 season, “Harold Hawk”, sometimes known as “Harry” lived with his mate at a game farm belonging to Judi Williams, a night student, in East Hartford. After the first Harry died, two other live Hawks served as mascots.

Over time it became clear that the hawk is not a particularly people-friendly species. University officials realized that a hawk does not belong in captivity unless injured or unable to defend itself in the wild. Eventually, the idea of using a costume developed and the first costumed hawk was played by wrestler Paul Poirier in the early 1960s.

During the 1970s, the Hawk was renamed “Manny” by Keven Fahey, chairman of the Sports Promotion Committee who rewived the Hawk after it had been dormant for a few years. The costumed player from 1985-1990 was Charles Vargeant. Miss Kim Pateracki substituted for Vargeant in 1976, thus becoming the first female costumed Hawk. As late as 1976, the hawk was still known as Manny. Somehow Manny went back to being Harry and then evolved into Howie.

The name “Howie” was the actual name of Howie Kassman, who wore the Hawk costume from 1985-1990. Howie has been played by both male and female students, but has remained a male character. Perhaps now that the women’s basketball team is coming into its own, perhaps it’s time the University to feature a Hawk named Holly, Hayleigh, or Hannah.
Libraries Gift Shop

Mortensen Library is now offering a new and exciting line of note cards. Based on the paintings of Edith Dale Monson, Hartford’s American Realist, these cards highlight her unique representation of life in the early 1900’s.

Monson Art Notes - Series 1

Monson Art Notes - Series II

Each series includes eight assorted designs and all proceeds from the sale of these cards will benefit the Paul R. and Grace Parks Mitchell Endowment for Women’s Studies. Cards can be purchased at the Circulation Desk in Mortensen Library or online through the Library Website: http://library.hartford.edu/giftshop/giftshop.htm.

Doctoral Students borrowing at other Academic Libraries

The University of Hartford would like to invite any doctoral students to apply for the special borrowing card. To apply for a CCALD borrowing card, a faculty or doctoral student must seek approval from the University of Hartford Circulation Desk at either the Mortensen or Allen Libraries. Upon approval, the patron receives a special borrowing card that may now be used at one of the other participating academic libraries. Please see the list of participating members at http://library.hartford.edu/giftshop/giftshop.htm.

University Archives Renovation

Over the summer, the University Archives room was transformed. New compact shelving was installed as well as several units of stationary shelving. Tables, chairs, computer equipment, and supplies were rearranged to create a more efficient workspace for the staff as well as for visiting researchers.

In the future we hope to give the room a fresh coat of paint, install carpeting, and set up professional exhibition cases. In the meantime, the walls have been decorated with photographs from the collection and costume drawings by the late Elemer Nagy, professor at The Hartt.

The installation of the new shelving meant that all of the archives collection needed to be moved out and then moved back. Thanks to the assistance of many people including staff members Randi Ashton-Pritting, Christy Bird, Barbara Dessureau, Kristina Edwards, and Judy Kacmarcik the move went smoothly. The staff was assisted by University of Hartford students Amanda Case, Justin Isaacs and volunteer Brent Wennenber, son of John Wennenber in Information Technology Services.

Special thanks are due to two international students from Saudi Arabia, Abdullah Alhussaini and Majid Albubairain. Abdullah and Majid volunteered countless hours of their time over the summer, packing boxes, taking down shelves, and moving material back and forth on library carts. Without their help it is unlikely the shelving project could have been completed so quickly.

Donor Opportunities to Support Collections

Gifts from our supporters greatly add to the University Libraries’ ability to enrich our students’ research experience. The following list includes some of the titles we would like to make available to our users. Also much welcomed are donations by subject area, as discussed in the Donor Opportunities section of the University Libraries’ homepage.

Title
The Accountable Corporation
Epstein and Hanson, eds.
$300
Art Invention House
Michael Webster
$75
Artists in Exile: A Story of Modern Dance in San Francisco, Videocassette
Bill T. Jones: Dancing to the Promised Land, Videocassette
$160
Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology, 11 vols
George Ritzer, ed.
$1095
Broadway: An Encyclopedia, 2nd ed.
Ken Bloom
$110
A Companion to Greek Tragedy
Justina Gregory, ed
$125
Contemporary Chicana and Chicano Art, 2 vols
Gary D. Keller
$160
Criminal Justice, 3 vol. set
Phyllis Gerson, ed.
$364
Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques, 2nd ed.
Han and Kamber.
$60
Encyclopedia of Animal Behavior, 3 vols
Marc Bekoff, ed
$350
Encyclopedia of Native American History
Zing Hang
$135
Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2nd ed., 10 vols
Donald M. Borchert, ed.
$995
Encyclopedia of Post-Colonial Literatures in English, 2nd ed.
Benson and Connolly, eds
$525
Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics, Rev. ed.
Carl Mitcham, ed
$450
Encyclopedia of Special Education, 3rd ed., 3 vols
Reynolds and Janzen, eds.
$600
Energy Storage: A Nontechnical Guide
Richard Baxter
$69
F. R. Volkmann, et al., eds.
$169
Ludovico Carracci and the Art of Drawing
Babette Bohn
$244
Anne Chang, et al., eds.
$341
Markell and Voges's Medical Parasitology, 9th ed.
David John and William Petri.
$60
New Dictionary of the History of Ideas, 6 vols
Maryanne Cline Horowitz, ed.
$695
Paradise Lost, 1667-1668: Three Centuries of Commentary.
Earl Miner, ed.
$85
The Rose Window
Painiot Cowen
$85
Santiago Calatrava: Complete Works
Alexander Tzonis
$75
Anri Eisen & Gary Laderman, eds.
$279
Seasonal Affective Disorder: Practice and Research.
Parton and Magnusson, eds.
$110
Seventies in America, 3 vols
John C. Super, ed.
$364
The Talking Greeks: Speech, Animals, and the Other in Homer, Aeschylyus, and Plato
John Health
$95
Arbuthnott and Soros.
$85
Water-Quality Engineering in Natural Systems
David A. Chin.
$120
Women Players in England, 1500-1660: Beyond the All-Male Stage
Brown & Parolin, eds.
$99

Interlibrary Loan Request Tracking now Available

Do you use the interlibrary loan service available through University Libraries to obtain material not available at UofH? Now you can check on the status of book, score and dissertation requests you place through WorldCat to make sure requests have gone through, find out when items are on their way, and see when they’re due back at the library.

Click WorldCat button on the library’s homepage - http://library.hartford.edu.
on September 26th, the Mortensen Library Board of Visitors presented an exhibition and opening reception in the 1997 Club entitled "Edith Dale Monson: Hartford's American Realist". The show displayed 22 drawings and paintings by Hartford artist Edith Dale Monson, the aunt of Mortensen Board member Shepherd Holcombe. The exhibition featured an outstanding array of art from the collection of the Holcombe family, many of whom were present at the opening.

Edith Dale Monson was born in New Haven in 1875 and educated at Smith College. She moved to New York to work as a free-lance illustrator and eventually entered the Art Students League, where she became a devoted pupil of Robert Henri. He was the co-founder of the avant-garde group called "The Eight", a precursor to the fabled "Ashcan School" of urban realist painters. Henri was a charismatic and highly influential teacher, and his students (and Edith Monson's fellow classmates) included Edward Hopper, Rockwell Kent, Stuart Davis, and George Bellows.

Henri's goal was to have his students faithfully record the energy and bustle of American life. Henri was a free-lance illustrator and eventually entered the art world of New York and its people, with special attention paid to the poor and working class. Edith Monson, armed with a satchel filled with pastels, sketch pads, and assorted paints and brushes, sought to record life as she found it from the Lower East Side to Central Park, from Chinatown to the Hudson River and its Palisades. Ever socially active, Henri and Monson were in the forefront of the fight for women's suffrage, unions and fair labor practices. Upon her return to Connecticut, Edith Monson settled in Hartford and established a studio on Asylum Street. She devoted the rest of her life to painting and teaching in the Hartford area. She was a founding member of the Women Artists of Connecticut, and exhibited at the New Britain Museum of American Art and the Town and Country Club in Hartford.

The exhibit was selected and curated by Zina Davis, the director of the Joseloff Gallery. At the opening, adjunct faculty and Mortensen staff member George Lechner gave a presentation on Monson's work and its relation to American realist art. To commemorate the event, Barbara Dessureau designed a series on note cards to sell for the benefit the Paul R. and Grace Parks Mitchell Endowment for Women's Studies.

Grant to Assess Freshman Information Literacy Skill – Jean Prescott

The libraries of the University of Hartford, together with those of Saint Joseph College and Capital Community College, recently received a small grant from the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education to develop a joint online information literacy test for incoming freshmen. Reference librarians from the three schools will provide the questions that Diane Goldsmith of the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium will turn into a testing instrument during the 2006/2007 academic year.

Beginning in the Fall of 2007, the test will be administered to entering students and again, to the same students after completion of a library instruction session. Accreditation officials are increasingly emphasizing the importance of being able to quantify the success of academic coursework and other educational initiatives of the university. This grant will enable the bibliographic instruction programs of three schools to do so.

You Otta be in Pictures

The University 2006 Annual Report features photographs of a number of University students. We were pleased to spot two of our long-time student employees among them. Garleen St. Germain (photo on left), a senior biology-chemistry major who works in Circulation, was on the cover! Junior theatre division student Karina Maestre (photo on right) appears on page two. She works in the Reference Services department.

Congratulations to both Karina and Garleen.

Edith Dale Monson Exhibit –George Lechner

Randi Ashton-Pritting received the University's Community Service Award for 2006 for her work with the J. C. Clark Elementary School. Randi is joined in her work on behalf of Clark School by other University staff, including George Brophy, chief information officer and Barbara Intriligator, director of the doctoral program in educational leadership. Randi has assisted the school by sponsoring a campuswide drive to collect box tops from Campbell's food products as part of the company's Labels for Education program as well as, working with donors to supply new books and securing grants to help finish the activity area of the library, and by hiring the school's new librarian.

Nick Wharton is the new Circulation and Reference Librarian at Mortensen Library. His responsibilities are split between oversight of circulation including reserves and providing reference and instruction to library patrons. Nick received a Master in Library and Information Studies from the University of Rhode Island in 1997. He also holds a Master of Science in English Education, 1996 and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Bates College, 1988.

For the past three years, Nick was the Head of Circulation at the Widener Library of Harvard University. Nick was also the Interlibrary Loan Librarian also for the Widener Library from 1999 to 2003. Prior to that, Nick was the Information Delivery Services Librarian for Brown University soon after graduating from URI. Prior to choosing librarianship as a profession, Nick spent many years doing a little bit of everything including construction, day care provider, substitute teacher, parking lot attendant, and ski bum residing in major cities of New York, Portland, ME and Washington as well as spending two years in the mountains of Colorado and a summer on Cape Cod. After finally establishing a career he loves, Nick finally decided to settle down as he married his childhood sweetheart in July and moved to Avon, CT to be with her and her four children.

Susan Bosa resigned her position as Reference and Circulation Librarian in July. She had been in that position since the preceding October, but held other positions in the Libraries for seven years. She is now employed as a librarian by the Connecticut Department of Corrections. She is greatly missed.

Brooke Lippy, Assistant Head of Allen Library, has accepted the position of member at large on the New England Music Library Association board.

Linda Solow Botlner, Head, Allen Library, was an invited guest at the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the renovation and naming of MIT's Lewis Music Library on November 15th. Botlner was the first music librarian of the MIT Music Library, serving from 1972–84. She is credited with building the collection and developing its many strengths. The well-attended event featured refreshments, music, and comments by Botlner, collected in the MIT Libraries. With her Creaitor Spirits, a canvas composed for the new library by Pulitzer Prize winning composer Professor John Harbison and etched on the glass facing of the library's mezzanine level was sung by tenor William Cutter, Director of Choral Programs & Lecturer in Music, and baritone Daniel Cunningham (’07). This was followed by an excellent performance of Ferenc Farkas's Early Hungarian Dances of the 17th Century by Lori Hubberman (’07); flute; Paul Ragaller (G), oboe; Daryush Mehta (G), clarinet; Ian Smith (’07), French horn; and Jeff Easley (’08), bassoon.

Phil Salathé, Cataloging Assistant, Allen Library, continues to maintain an active career as a composer. His “Three Street Pieces” were performed by clarinetist Alain Kay and double bassist Brendan Kane as part of the Cape May Music Festival in Cape May, NJ. Meanwhile, his “Eight Pieces for Piano” were premiered in November by pianist, and Allen student staff, Luiza Aquino, receiving a positive review in the Hartford Advocate. Phil has several premiers planned for the coming year, with upcoming performances in Hartford and in Philadelphia.

Anna Walker, student staff, Allen Library, was accepted into the Library of Congress Junior Fellows Summer Intern 2006 summer program. The 25 college students from across the nation who were in the program last summer surveyed segments of the Library's nonbook collections and identified unique items by working closely with Library staff and curators in the Copyright Office and a wide variety of divisions at the Library, including Manuscript, Music, Prints and Photographs, Rare Books and Special Collections, Special Materials Cataloging, Geography and Map, and Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound. In addition to researching the actual deposit copies submitted to the Library of Congress for registration in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, interns also reviewed thousands of handwritten applications submitted by copyright applicants, yielding many unique descriptions of
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Ms. Barbara Wolfe

Morton A. Elsner

We are sad to announce the passing of Morton A. Elsner, Lt. Colonel US Army Retired, 93, of Bloomfield, formerly of Hartford, who died on July 30, 2006. Mr. Elsner graduated from Yale University 1939. He was associated with his late father in the practice of law for many years. He continued in the practice of law with the late Attorney Aaron Nassau and continued with Attorney Gerald Fields. A veteran of World War II, Mr. Elsner served as an instructor in the Judge Advocate branch department of the 1050th USAR School. Proud of his Hartford heritage, he served his city and state in a multitude of areas; was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Greater Hartford Transit District from 1986 through 1998; for 22 years he served on the Board of the Hartford Public Library, most notably as president of the Board from 1988 to 1988; for many years he served on the Mortensen Board of Visitors at the University of Hartford and he also served for many years on the Metropolitan District Commission. He was the treasurer and then president of Congregation Beth Israel of West Hartford, the latter for two terms. He was a long time member of the Hartford Rotary Club, and proud member of the Military Officers’ Association of America.

In Memoriam

Randi L. Ashton-Pritting

InfoAnytime to the Rescue

Students don’t always. They may be working on that critical paper at 2am, and have a research problem that can’t wait for the library to open at 8:30. Solving that problem is the idea behind InfoAnytime, a service offered by the Connecticut Library Consortium. The University of Hartford is one of dozens of libraries across the state testing the service, which began operation in August. It’s available with a click on the InfoAnytime logo that appears many places on our web site.

InfoAnytime offers live online “chat” with professional librarians. Those librarians have access to information about the resources available to the Libraries’ users, and can direct researchers to the appropriate database and then help them to find articles; or help them to search for a book; or to place an interlibrary loan request. Any question students can ask during the day may occur to them at night. Now they have a way of getting an answer when they need it. InfoAnytime isn’t a replacement for

University librarians, who know the students, the faculty, and frequently and frequently the assignments. It’s a way of continuing to offer service when we go home at the end of the day. In its first four months of service, InfoAnytime has been used about 45 times by the University of Hartford community. The average chat session is 17 minutes long.

Library staff can review complete transcripts of the chat sessions between our students and InfoAnytime librarians. We can assess the value of the service, how often it’s being used, what kinds of problems students are having that we might be able to address through improved instruction or design of our website, and so forth. We cannot identify who is using the service. That information is hidden to protect patron privacy.

Along with the Connecticut Library Consortium, the Libraries will be assessing the value of InfoAnytime in the spring, and deciding whether to continue to offer it next year. We welcome feedback from students and others who have used the service.

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1998; for 22 years he served on the Board of the Hartford Public Library, most notably as president of the Board from 1988 to 1988; for many years he served on the Mortensen Board of Visitors at the University of Hartford and he also served for many years on the Metropolitan District Commission. He was the treasurer and then president of Congregation Beth Israel of West Hartford, the latter for two terms. He was a long time member of the Hartford Rotary Club, and proud member of the Military Officers’ Association of America.

In addition, he was a member of the Wyliss-St. John Lodge No. 4; past president of Jewish Family Services; a YMCA trustee, and a board member emeritus of the Charter Oak Temple Restoration Association. He was a director of Mt. Sinai Hospital and a director of the Hebrew Home & Hospital. Morton will be sadly missed.