



KAREN ANSELL
Largo High School
Fred Ansell



BRIAN BADGETT
Clearwater High School
Carl Badgett



BOYD K. BELNAP
Dunedin High School
Bruce E. Belnep

The 1978 Graduates Issue



NATHANIEL JEROME BOONE
Boca Ciega High School
Willie C. Boone



WILLIE C. BOONE, JR.
Boca Ciega High School
Willie C. Boone

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PAGE THREE

the News

JUNE 1978

Tina Wells graduates cum laude from USF

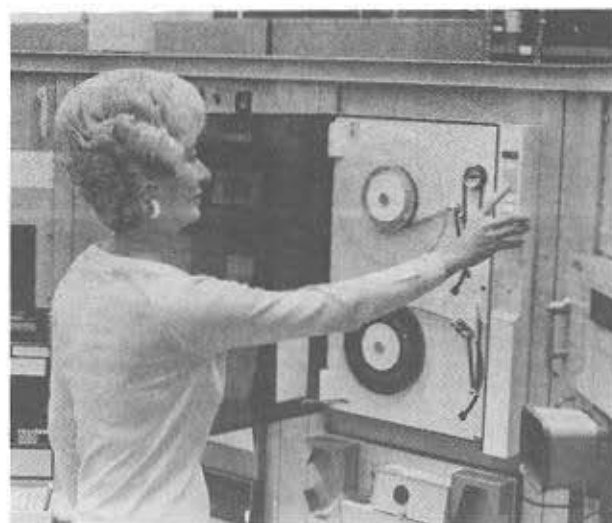
by Marilyn Byrd

The years between gaining a high school diploma and a college education can be long and tedious. For some, who manage to go directly to college from high school, the way may be smooth. But others who seek their degrees after they have already started their careers, find the goal of achieving a sheepskin from a university truly a measure of accomplishment.

When Tina Wells graduates in June with her bachelor's degree cum laude from USF's College of Business Administration with a major in management, it will represent twenty years of her life that she has spent earning her college education.

Tina completed her first semester towards her degree at the University of Florida in Gainesville and the following two years at Lindsey Hopkins in Miami

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As a specialist in quality information equipment, Tina Wells has been designing software programs for mini computer controlled test equipment such as the PT 1533 for the past seven years.

Pencils With A Past

by tom hecnik

In the day to day course of business at NDD, we use items from all parts of the country. Rubber bands come from Alliance, Ohio; the file folders are produced in Buena Park, California; and our badge clips are manufactured in Phoenix, Arizona.

Recently, a new supplier was obtained for our pencils. The company is the Blackfeet Indian Writing Company located in one of the coldest counties in the United States -- Browning, Montana.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Pencils With A Past

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

There's quite a story behind the Montana based company. The plant is 80% owned by the Blackfeet Indians. The area's severe climate has historically resulted in keeping the Blackfeet tribe remote from economic activity. Jobs there were seasonal and limited to the basics of farming, ranching and lumbering. The 12,000 member tribe suffered a thirty to sixty percent unemployment crunch during the long Winter months.

Earl Old Person, chairman of the Blackfeet Tribal Council, recognized the needs of his tribe, the reservation and the town of Browning. With some major assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration, Chief Old Person invested tribal funds to start the business.



Bill Weatherwax, pen and marker foreman, checks production reports in the factory. All but one of the 90 employees are Blackfeet Indians, or are married to tribal members.

A 40,000 square foot plant was built and equipped with machinery. A former executive of one of the country's big pencil companies was recruited to start the business, and its first product, and still one of the firm's best-sellers, the Blackfeet Indian Pencil, was produced.

The Blackfeet Indian Writing Company has been in business for over six years. There are over ninety employees in the company and the payroll is expected to be over \$800,000 in 1978.

"The first exposure to the company was at a procurement managers' conference in Kansas City," related Ray Atkinson, NDD's purchasing manager. "The convention was using the pen and I noticed the Blackfeet Indian Writing Company marking on the side of the pen."

Upon his return to St. Petersburg, Ray wrote a letter to the company indicating interest in their products. His letter resulted in a visit by the company's vice president of sales, William Meyer. Meyer presented a slide presentation to members of NDD's Minority Enterprise Committee.

"thanks very much"



A group of NDD people got together for a few minutes recently to meet Sonja Garcia (second from right) of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., a national organization comprised of professional and college women. Sonja presented the group with a special corporate support "Thank You" award in appreciation for the department sponsored effort in producing a fifty-page booklet for the organization's South Atlantic Regional Conference.

Each member of the group pictured above contributed many individual skills and provided a wealth of technical assistance in compiling, printing and binding the booklet. From left to right are: Chuck Sumner, Lee Beistle, Virginia Butcher, Sandy Wilson, Doris Hagan, Sonja Garcia and Clint McGirr.

The project was a part of NDD's continuing community relations and affirmative action efforts. Ms. Garcia, who served as Conference Chairperson, told the group that, "Everyone in our organization is extremely grateful for General Electric's support. I realize that all of you put a great deal of effort into the project, and we very much appreciate your help."

An order for the pencils was placed and "there is a possibility of using their pens in the future," according to Atkinson.

So you see, there is more to the pencil than meets the eye. And by the way, the tribe says "Tsee-Ook-Ta-See-Tuki." In Blackfeet Indianese, that means "thank you".



The 40,000 square foot plant is located near Glacier Park in Browning, Montana -- one of the coldest counties in the U.S.



DAVID MACK BOYER
St. Petersburg High School
Thomas M. Boyer



PAMELA HELEN BROCK
Clearwater High School
Carroll Brock



LISA BROWN
St. Petersburg Jr. College
W.C. Brown



SHARON BUEHLER
Clearwater High School
Ray Buehler



ROBERT G. CARROZZA
Seminole High School
Ron Carrozza

1978 Graduates

This year, son and daughter graduates of eighty-three NDD employees received diplomas from their acknowledged institutions of learning. The NEWS is pleased to honor these young people and their achievements within the pages of this special issue.



PATRICIA ANN CAVEN
St. Petersburg Catholic
James S. Caven



KEVIN CHADWICK
Boca Ciega High School
Shelby Chadwick



LINDA J. DANN
University of Florida-BS
George F. Dann



GUY DAVIDSON
Seminole High School
Gene Davidson



BOB DELANCEY, JR.
Gibbs High School
Bob Delancey



JANET DOMBEY
University of So. Florida
Master of Arts
Bill Dombey



LISA DONAHOE
St. Petersburg Catholic
Jerry Donahoe



ERIC EICHMAN
St. Petersburg Jr. College-AA
Clarence Eichman



MARLENE EICHMAN
Largo High School
Clarence Eichman



ANN MARIE EISERMAN
Seminole High School
Jan Eiserman



JULIE D. ENGLEBERT
Largo High School
James R. Englebert



THOMAS E. ENGLEBERT
Largo High School
James E. Englebert



GREG FABRIZIO
St. Petersburg Catholic
Ron Fabrizio



SUSAN A. FRANK
Gibbs High School
John G. Frank



LORIMER LEE GAUSE
Tappan Springs High School
R.C. Gause, Jr.



ROY C. GAUSE III
St. Petersburg Jr. College
Associate in Business
R.C. Gause, Jr.



GLENN D. GETMAN
Gibbs High School
Marina Getman



TIM GOODARD
Pinellas Park High School
Glen Goodard



JOHN GREGORY
Florida State University
BS-Government
Art Gregory



SCOTT GROSS
Marine Military Academy
Kenneth Gross



ALAN RAFF
Seminole High School
Gene Raff



JULIAN C. HAMMACK, III
Clearwater High School
J.C. Hammack, Jr.



TERESA LYNN HEHEMANN
Seminole High School
Wesley & William Hehemann



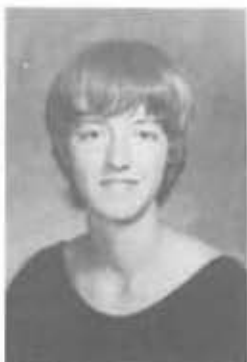
HOLLIE ANN HOLLISTER
Gibbs High School
Judd F. Hollister



KYMM NOEL HUSEBY
Clearwater High School
Alan F. Huseby



DAYNA JENNINGS
Seminole High School
Dowey Jennings



JEAN KENLY
University of Florida
BS-Education
Arnold Kenly



JOEL L. KLAUS
Pinellas Park High School
Albert J. Klaus



JEANNE KRUSE
Boca Ciega High School
Janet & Mike Kruse



LINDA KUBACH
Ohio Wesleyan University-BA
R.A. Kubach



LINDA ROSE KUHNE
Morton Plant Hospital
School of Radiology
Paul A. Kuhne



DEBRA ANN KUHNE
Boca Ciega High School
Paul A. Kuhne



JEFF LEDDY
Georgia Institute of
Technology-BS in Physics
Ann & Ed Leddy



STEPHEN E. LONG
Northeast High School
Kerest W. Long



BRIAN LUDWIG
Seminole High School
Comer Ludwig



D. SCOTT MAGNESS
Seminole High School
Don Magness



WILLIAM MAYS
Gibbs High School
J.D. Mays



DAVID A. MEYERS
Seminole High School
John F. Meyers



BRIAN K. MEYER
Seminole High School
Clifton D. Meyer



JULIANNE RIOTKE
Clearwater Central Catholic
John Riotke



STEVE MALSBERY
Clearwater High School
John Malsberry



ANNETTE MONTGOMERY
Clearwater High School
Melvin J. Montgomery



SHARON LEE MORAN
Dixie Hollins High School
Marian Moran



PATTI MURRAY
Dixie Hollins High School
Jim Murray



GEORGE MC CLELLAN
Clearwater High School
G.B. Mc Clellan



WENDY SUE MC KAY
Gibbs High School
Barbara M. McKay



DAWN ANDREA MC KEEL
Clearwater High School
Melvin Mc Keel



SHARON OSEFF
Boca Ciega High School
E.B. Oseff



PHILLIP PARSONS
Dixie Hollins High School
Norman H. Parsons



CONNIE E. PATTERSON
Gibbs High School
Charles R. Patterson



MIKEL DENNIS PATTERSON
Dixie Hollins High School
Jo Patterson



VIRETTA PATTERSON
Gibbs High School
Vivian J. Patterson



DEBRA PEARSON
Pinellas Park High School
James E. Pearson



ROBERT PETERSON
Northeast High School
Mary Ellen & Tom Peterson



STEVE ROEPKE
Clearwater High School
Ted Roepke



ANTONY ROGERS
Lake wood High School
Agnes & Odell Rogers



DEBORAH SCHROEDER
Hudson High School
Robert Schroeder



SANDRA SMITH
Largo High School
R.B. Smith



CINDY WARD SMUK
Thom Howard Academy
John Ward



STEVE SPEARS
Pinellas Park High School
Ken Spears



JULIE KAY STAFFORD
Dunedin High School
Harold L. Stafford



BONNIE STREET
Dunedin High School
B.L. Street



MICHAEL SUNDERBRUCH
Seminole High School
William Sunderbruch



JACKI THIBIDEAU
Clearwater High School
Forest Thibideau



JUDY THOMPSON
Seminole High School
William G. Thompson



FREDERICK J. UPTAGROVE
Plant City High School
F.W. Uptagrove



DAVID WAGNER
St. Petersburg Christian
Bob Wagner



KERRY WESTBROOK
Seminole High School
Harold Westbrook



ROBERT J. WETZEL II
Seminole High School
Robert J. Wetzel



BRIAN A. YEATES
Seminole High School
John E. Yeates



KELLY YOUNGBLOOD
Pinellas Park High School
Gail Youngblood



GAIL C. YURCHISIN
Santo Fe Jr. College
AA-Dental Assistant
Joseph Yurchisin



MARK J. YURCHISIN
University of South Florida
Doctor of Medicine
Joseph Yurchisin

Tina Wells graduates cum laude from USF

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where she studied electronics. After graduation in the early part of 1961, she joined GE and was the first female electronics engineering technician hired at the Pinellas plant for the standards laboratory. This was long before females began making thrusts into the predominantly male technical careers.

According to Tina, "Even though I was always technically oriented, in those days no one could conceive a woman would be interested in a career in engineering." None of the counselors in the school system would encourage her to seek a career in anything except the traditional female roles such as teaching or nursing. "Temporarily I gave up thoughts about getting a degree because I felt it would be too much to work full time and finish my education." But Tina continued to take courses as a math major at St. Pete, Jr. College and later the University of South Florida through the Tuition Refund Program.

Finally, she switched her major to management in the College of Business Administration at the University because she felt she had a sufficient technical background, both in education and experience, for her career goals.

And now after twenty years, what are those immediate goals? Right now, she hopes to be a successfully selected candidate for the two-year Manufacturing Studies Training Program which will begin early in the Fall. Presently, Tina is a specialist in quality information equipment. This means she designs and writes software for mini computers used to control product acceptance test equipment. But eventually, she'd like to move into management where she can complete her career goals with the company.

From Russia, With Love

A 92-year-old Russian who came to the United States in 1906 sent President Carter a check for \$35,000 last October.

"Dear Mr. President," said the handwritten note on a scrap of paper from the unidentified West Coast resident, "the check of \$35,000 is a gift for the U.S.A.—long live."

The check has gone to the Treasury's gift section, and the elderly donor has received a thank-you from Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal.

Remember When?



It was just over 17 years ago that a helicopter came clattering down for a landing in front of our plant -- an unusual happening in any year. The occasion was a whirlwind tour of Pinellas industry by Florida Senator George Smathers (C). He was met by plant manager Ad Persons (L), and AEC/PAO manager H.A. Nowak, and taken through the plant for a quick look at one of the County's newest industries.



the NEWS.....

IS PUBLISHED FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE NEUTRON DEVICES DEPARTMENT, OPERATED BY THE GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. ADDRESS MAIL TO: COMMUNICATION AND EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT, GE 100, P.O. BOX 11508, ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA 33733. PH: 813 544-2511, EXTENSION 111

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MARILYN BYRD	- COORDINATOR, MEDIA COMMUNICATION

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