“I never dreamed how NJIT would change my life!” This is what Fabio Hurtado (CE) ’74 has said about the educational and athletic experiences that led to his becoming a soccer star, engineer and world traveler — and witnessing the recent political turmoil in Egypt.

Read more at http://magazine.njit.edu/hurtado or the QR link — including Fabio’s first-hand account from Egypt.
WHITE HOUSE APPOINTS TARASIUK

Al Tarasiuk (EE ’86 is President Obama’s appointee for chief information officer of the intelligence community, Office of the Director of National Intelligence. Tarasiuk is a career senior intelligence officer at the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), where he served as chief information officer from 2005 to 2010. In this role, he supported cyber defense and also served as the CIA’s senior privacy and civil liberties officer.

REDEKER TO HEAD CONNECTICUT TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Connecticut Governor Daniel P. Malloy has announced the appointment of James Redeker ‘77 (Engineering Science), MS ’80 (CE) as acting commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT), to serve until a permanent commissioner is nominated. The DOT is headquartered in Newington and has more than 3,100 employees.

“Jim Redeker is a talented, dedicated transportation professional with recognized expertise in the realm of public transportation, which is right where our focus needs to be right now,” said Governor Malloy. “We have just begun to put new rail cars into service, we are rebuilding the New Haven Line commuter corridor and we are doing everything we can to boost public transportation and reduce congestion on our highways. Jim shares my commitment to making these investments and I am happy that he has agreed to take on this additional responsibility.”

Redeker joined the DOT in 2008 after a 30-year career with the New Jersey Department of Transportation and NJ Transit — the third-largest transit agency in the country. His portfolio of experience includes strategic planning and policy, capital programming, transit-service planning and scheduling, transit-friendly development, demand forecasting, pricing, paratransit and community-service delivery, customer-service technology, and infrastructure and application management.

“I am gratified by the confidence Governor Malloy has placed in me and I look forward to working with him and the General Assembly to implement the best strategies for Connecticut’s commuters and our state’s overall economy,” said Redeker.

Prior to being appointed CIO, Tarasiuk was director of the CIA’s Information Services Center. In his early years at the agency, he served overseas in an operational role with the National Clandestine Service. Tarasiuk began his federal career as a project engineer with Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. In 2011, he received the National Intelligence Reform Medal from the director of national intelligence for significant accomplishments leading to the transformation and integration of the U.S. intelligence community.

MAL & FRIENDS

NJIT Magazine invites new correspondents to join Mal Simon in sharing news about class members and alumni organizations. Professor emeritus of physical education and athletics, Mal was director of physical education and athletics, and men’s soccer coach, for 30 years. In 1993, he received the Cullimore Medal for his service to the university.

If you would like to be a regular correspondent, don’t hesitate to send an e-mail to the editor of NJIT Magazine: dean.maskevich@njit.edu

First, the latest news from Mal —

In the good old days, it was generally perceived that a typical NCE student was intelligent and hardworking but that writing was not a strong suit. So it was a pleasant surprise to meet John E. DiMatteo ’61, aka Jed, who has demonstrated that he was either not a typical NCE student or, Heaven Forbid, the perception was incorrect. Jed was at my table at the 50th anniversary celebration honoring the members of the NCE 1960 National Championship Soccer Team. His fellow classmate and good friend, Peter Szabados ’61, was one of the honorees.

Following graduation, Jed spent the summer touring Europe on his motor scooter with his sleeping bag on the back. When he returned home, he worked at his father’s engineering design firm. At the end of that year, Jed contracted to teach science at St. Michael’s High School in Jersey City. To meet requirements for this position, he took courses in biology and education at the University of Colorado, which he had previously attended in the summer of 1960 to earn credits for his NCE degree in electrical engineering. Each of the next two summers, Jed took courses at the University of California at Santa Barbara. He also planned to attend law school while teaching. These plans changed when he met his wife and left teaching to earn a higher income as an engineer.

Peter helped him get a job at Con Edison in New York City, where he worked as an engineering manager until retiring in 1997. Jed’s claim to literary fame is his Jersey Journal, a one-page newsletter he produced in the late 1950s and early 60s. The idea was that, as a Jersey City native commuting to NCE, he would write about his friends who were at other colleges and in the Armed Forces across the country and around the world. One person would type it up and another would make about 20 copies and send them out.

In 1996, a friend suggested that Jed bring back the Journal by using the Internet (www.jedseyjournal.com) to publish stories about Jersey City and its people. The online Jersey Journal has a current readership of about 2000 and has been featured in the Jersey Journal and The Record. Anyone interested in contributing Jersey City stories can contact Jed at jedsey journal@compuserve.com. Jed’s
interests also include history and film, and he is involved with The George Washington Commemorative Society of Jersey City and The Golden Door International Film Festival, which will have its debut festival in October 2011.

The story of Peter Szabados is one of many that Jed has written. As a young boy in Hungary, Peter lost his father in the Holocaust, and it was only through the efforts of his mother that Peter and his brother survived. After the war, his brother was smuggled out of Hungary into Israel, and when the Russian tanks moved into Budapest, his mother sold everything they had to get her and Peter smuggled over the border and eventually to the United States. They were penniless and part of a refugee group that arrived in Jersey City on Christmas Day in 1956, where they settled.

Peter entered NCE, graduating with a BS in electrical engineering in 1961. He is a Professional Engineer and has been active with the IEEE. He was employed at Con Edison in New York from 1961 until his 1999 retirement in various engineering and management positions, including chief engineer and manager of the Fossil Power Engineering and Nuclear Engineering Departments. While at Con Ed, Peter earned an MBA from the Baruch School of Business at CCNY. Since his retirement, he has been employed as a senior engineering consultant. Pete, his wife, Mary, and their two sons live in Paramus, New Jersey.

As a follow-up to the article “Starting Toward a National Championship” by Jim Boyle ’58 and Kurt Carlson ’53 in the fall 2010 NJIT Magazine, we decided to locate missing players from the early NCE soccer teams and invite them to an historic reunion in the fall of 2011. To date, we have located Dolph Rotfeld ’53, Steve Rotter ’58 and the children of Alex Rae ’51.

Dolph, a former New York Scholastic All-Star, is credited with spearheading the start of soccer at NCE in 1951. He did not limit his NCE extracurricular activities to soccer, as he was also a pitcher on the varsity baseball team, wrote about sports for the NCE newspaper and The Star-Ledger, was elected a member of the Pi Delta Epsilon honorary journalism society, and was a co-founder of the NCE photography club. He is the founder and principal of Dolph Rotfeld Engineering, P.C. (DRE), consulting engineers for environmental, civil, and sanitary projects.

In existence for 30 years, DRE has prepared plans for engineering work involving hundreds of millions of dollars. The firm’s past and present municipal clients include the City of New Rochelle; the Villages of Ardsley, Elmsford, Pelham and Rye Brook; the Towns of New Castle, North Castle, Harrison, Greenburgh and Eastchester; Westchester Joint Water Works and Westchester County. DRE also serves as Village Engineer for Mount Kisco, Port Chester, Pelham Manor and Sleepy Hollow, and as Town Engineer for the Town of Mamaroneck.

Dolph is licensed as a Professional Engineer in Connecticut, New Jersey and New York. In addition to being a Fellow of the National Society of Professional Engineers, Dolph has served as chairman of the Committee on Legislation of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers. He has also served as president of the state society and its Westchester Chapter. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Water Works Association, the New York Water Environment Federation and is a Diplomate of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers. His numerous honors include the New York State Society of Professional Engineers (NYSSPE) Meritorious Service Award and Outstanding Engineer in Private Practice and Engineer of the Year Awards from the Westchester Chapter of NYSSPE. Dolph and his wife, Karen, have two children, Noah and Mia, and live in Harrison, New York.

Having started at NCE in 1949, Steve Rotter, PE would have graduated in 1953 but had to drop out in his senior year. He entered the U. S. Army and was sent to the former Japanese naval academy in Japan to learn Morse code. After a year in Korea, he was assigned to a base in Boston. It was there that his life changed when he met his wife, Midge, who he married in 1956. Steve then returned to NCE, taking night classes until graduation in 1958. While attending NCE, he worked for a consulting engineer as a bridge designer in Newark.

After receiving his degree, Steve designed bridges for the New York State Department of Transportation in Albany until 1965, when he accepted a job as county resident engineer in Tioga County, New York. In 1970, he left Tioga County for a similar position with the New York State Thruway in Buffalo to take charge of maintenance for 290 miles of the Thruway, including 17 interchanges and 11 service and rest areas. In 1975, to be closer to their hometowns of Chatham, New Jersey, and Boston, Steve moved to the Albany Division of the Thruway, where he stayed until retiring in 1986. Steve and Midge live in Kinderhook, New York. They have four daughters, eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Alex Rae was NCE’s volunteer soccer coach from 1952 to 1954. The story is that he was watching the team play at Branch Brook Park in Newark and, after the game, asked if they minded if he helped them out at some practices and games. He was a modest man and only recently have we discovered that he was an outstanding soccer player. Alex was born in Scotland in 1916 and came to the U.S. with his father to live in Kearny, New Jersey, appropriately known at the time as Soccer Town U.S.A. He played ten seasons with the American Soccer League and was the top scorer for most of those years. In 1935 and 1936 he played with the Newark German Americans, and with the Kearny Scots from 1937 to 1946. In 1937, Alex played in three games with the United States National Team, scoring a goal in each game.

Alex worked at the Lock Joint Company while in school, as well as following his graduation in 1951. He took a break from NCE during World War II to serve in the U.S. Army Air Corps. In 1954, Alex relocated his family to Burbank, California, to work for the Lockheed Aircraft Company. A few years later, he moved to McDonnell Douglas Corporation, where he worked on missile systems until retiring in 1974. While in California, Alex maintained his interest in soccer, playing for two years with an amateur team, the Hollywood Bears. He was also
active with the American Youth Soccer Organization, coaching girls’ teams and officiating. Alex died in 2011 and is survived by his daughter, Sandra Rae Juesgen, and son, Douglas, who graciously provided me with their dad’s life story.

It is hoped that more members of the NCE 1951-54 teams will contact us so we can send them information about the September 2011 reunion. I can be reached at mal.simon@njit.edu. Jim at decejm1059@optonline.net and Kurt at klc56@optonline.net.

All others keep the news coming.

1965

Stephen J. Bistritz (EE) has co-authored Selling to the C-Suite (McGraw-Hill, 2010). Steve is president and founder of SellXL.com, a global sales training and consulting company based in Atlanta. Steve spent nearly 28 years with IBM in sales, sales-management and training-management positions, retiring in 1994. His articles on managing and winning major sales opportunities, selling to executives, and other sales and marketing issues have appeared in numerous publications. He currently resides in Atlanta with his wife Claire, three children and five grandchildren.

1974

Jack Wagner (CIS) shares the news that he has helped to create and works at CTX Resources (ctxresources.com), a new staffing firm that "rents" experienced professionals to IT companies that have temporary gaps in their partner-channel-marketing and sales organizations. Jack’s background includes more than three decades as an executive with IBM. He also founded his own Connecticut-based consulting company, Improvement Through Innovation, LLC. In addition to being an alum, Jack has taught at the School of Management as an adjunct instructor.

1983

Jay Davis (CE), a project executive with Turner Construction Company, has been named to the board of trustees of Einstein’s Alley. Based in central New Jersey, Einstein’s Alley is a private non-profit economic development initiative that seeks to foster economic growth through advocacy that helps to attract new companies to the region, retain existing businesses and encourage the growth of jobs and services.

1984

Paul Manz (EE) was recently named chief scientist for the U.S. Army’s Program Executive Office, Ammunition (PEO Ammo), located at Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. As chief scientist, Paul writes that he champions, advises, supports and represents R&D and manufacturing technology activities across PEO Ammo’s almost $5 billion annual portfolio of programs, products and systems. He has held multiple leadership, program and technical-management positions during his 27-year civil service career with the Army. Paul is a senior member of IEEE and the Army Acquisition Corps, has authored numerous papers and articles, and holds four patents with a fifth patent pending.

Raymond A. Wright (Engineering Technology) has joined Gannett Fleming, an international planning, design, and construction-management firm based in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Ray has nearly 30 years of extensive construction and project-management experience with higher-education, commercial, industrial, institutional and pharmaceutical projects.

1989

Stanford Lewis (Engineering Technology), a senior technical architect with AT&T, received a Special Recognition Award at the 25th Black Engineer of the Year Awards Stem Conference in Washington D.C.

Gary Spivak MS (Mgmt) writes that he has started a company whose first product is Vodgria, a prepared vodka-sangria cocktail now distributed in New Jersey.

2002

James D. Sens, PLS (Engineering Technology) was installed in February as president of the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors (NJSPLS) at the society’s annual conference in Atlantic City. Jim has the distinction of being the first graduate of NJIT’s program in surveying engineering technology to serve as NJSPLS president.

He was also named the NJSPLS Technician of the Year in 2002.

2005

Matthew Robinson MS (Engineering Management) writes that he has formed his own civil engineering consulting firm, MidAtlantic Engineering Partners, LLC (midatlanticeng.com).

2007

Paul L. McCall (Engineering Technology) has been named public works director for Somerset County, New Jersey.

2009

Edward J. Biebel MS (IS) has been promoted to vice president of business applications with the Marketing Department of Hill International, a firm specializing in managing construction risk.

IN MEMORIAM

NJIT notes with sadness the passing of the following alumni:

Irving L. Bindelglass ’48
Gerald D. Nisivoccia ’55
Robert Halper ’58
Henry Frederick Broer ’67
CORPORATE CLUBS

NJIT’s Corporate Clubs provide valuable networking opportunities for alumni in the workplace while also assisting NJIT students and faculty. Current Corporate Clubs include: Eng-Wong, Taub & Associates, Hatch Mott MacDonald, PSE&G, Schering-Plough, Turner Construction and United Parcel Service. For more information: www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs

REGIONAL CLUBS

NJIT Regional Clubs are planning events across the country. For more information: www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs

YOUNG ALUMNI CLUB

The Young Alumni Club organizes social, networking, and educational events for alumni and their families. For more information: www.njit.edu/alumni/clubs

WHAT’S UP WITH MARTY?

The 2011 Photonics West Exposition in San Francisco reunited Marty Dvorin ’58 (ME) with Mike Mandina (left) and Jim Sydor, two of Marty’s former students in the pioneering optical systems technology program at Monroe Community College. Mike, president of Optinax, and Jim, president of Sydor Instruments, helped Marty celebrate his 88th birthday.