

California State University Northridge

Did
You
Know...

Pioneering inventor Ernie Schaeffer, who founded a San Fernando Valley manufacturing company that played a key role in U.S. space exploration, has pledged \$2 million for the College of Engineering and Computer Science. The founder of Schaeffer Magnetics has endowed a center named in his honor to promote innovation and entrepreneurial skills among CSUN students by engaging them directly with inventors and entrepreneurs.

Atutoring project coordinated by Cal State Northridge's Center for Academic Preparedness is producing remarkable results in lowering the student dropout rate at Sylmar High School. In the past year alone, the high school's dropout rate has fallen from a jaw-dropping 48 percent for the class of 2004 to 26 percent for the class of 2005. The project expects to see that rate dip even more to 14 percent for the 2006 class.

Education alumna Margaret "Peg" Cagle, who earned her master's degree and teaching credential at Cal State Northridge, has been honored by President George Bush with a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and a \$10,000 federal grant award. Cagle teaches math at the gifted/highly gifted magnet school of Lawrence Middle School in Chatsworth.

Reflecting the university's global reach, CSUN's Center for China Finance and Business, headed by finance professor Chao Chen, will host a symposium in China this summer examining globalization and its impact on the financial services industry in China. Officials in CSUN's College of Business and Economics hope the event, drawing business leaders and academics from around the world, will become an annual one.

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